

# *The Kentucky Warbler*

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## THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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## THE COVER

We thank Brian Wulker for the image of the Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) taken 8 September 2013 at Guist Creek Lake in Shelby County (see p. 7). Financial support for color reproduction in this issue has been provided by the Daniel Boone National Forest.



## FALL 2013 SEASON

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

Weather conditions during fall 2013 were somewhat variable. Temperatures during August through October were relatively normal, but November was cooler than normal statewide, with most stations recording a mean temperature about 4°F lower than normal. Precipitation was much more variable during the season. During August, normal rainfall occurred across much of northern and western Kentucky, but across the south and east precipitation was well above average, with Jackson receiving more than 10 inches (2.5 times normal). In contrast, September trended drier than normal, especially in the eastern half of the state. October precipitation was quite variable across the state, with relatively dry conditions in the east but abundant rainfall across central and western Kentucky, where Louisville received a record amount (9.94 in), most of it (7 in) over the two-day period 5-6 October. Finally, November ended the four-month period with below-normal precipitation across most of the state.

Rarity highlights included Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Roseate Spoonbill, Swallow-tailed Kite, Red Phalarope, Sabine's Gull, Snowy Owl, and Northern Shrike. Unlike the fall of 2012, irruptive winter finches were non-existent, with a few Red-breasted Nuthatches and Purple Finches comprising the only conifer seed eating birds to appear.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

**Abbreviations** – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ba.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the bird was banded; “ph.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “†” next to an observer's initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report. **Place names:** Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*; Ballard WMA, *Ballard*; Barkley Dam, *Lyon* (unless otherwise noted); Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren*; Berea, *Madison*; Big Bear Creek = Big Bear Creek embayment, *Ky Lake, Marshall*; Blood River = Blood River embayment, *Ky Lake, Calloway*; Cave Lake = [formerly Cooley's Pond], *Wayne*; Camp #9 = Camp #9 Coal Preparation Plant, *Union*; Camp #11 = former Camp #11 Mine, *Union*; Campbell Dikes = Mississippi River sandbars upstream from Doug Travis WMA, *Carlisle*; Cave Run Lake, *Bath/Rowan*; Cherokee Park, *Jefferson*; Douglass Hills, e. *Jefferson*; Dry Creek Unit = Dry Creek Unit Barren River Lake WMA, *Barren*; Eddy Creek = Eddy Creek embayment of Lake Barkley, *Lyon*; Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment of Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski*; Freeman Lake, *Hardin*; Guist Creek Lake, *Shelby*; Halls Store Pond, along w. side of US 431 at Halls Store, *Logan*; Hickman, *Fulton*; Iroquois Park, *Jefferson*; Island No. 1 = Mississippi River sandbars in the vicinity of Island No. 1, *Carlisle*; John U. Young Road = transient pond on John U. Young Road, *Logan*; Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment, *Ky Lake, Marshall*; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall*; Ky Dam Village = Ky Dam Village SRP, *Marshall*; Ky Lake = Kentucky Lake, *Calloway/Livingston/Lyon/Marshall/Trigg*; Lake No. 9, *Fulton*; Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*; LBL = Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, *Lyon/Trigg*; Lick Creek = Lake Barkley at the mouth of Lick Creek, *Lyon*; Little River = Little River embayment of Lake Barkley, *Trigg*; Long Point = Long Point Unit Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge, *Fulton*; Melco = Melco flood retention basin, *Jefferson*; Miller, nw. of Long Point, w. *Fulton*; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*; Obion WMA, *Fulton*; Open Pond, w. *Fulton*; Parsons



Pond [formerly KY 739 Pond] = transient pond along KY 739, Logan; Pope Lick Park, [formerly Floyds Fork Park], Jefferson; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson; Sinclair = Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg; Sledd Creek = Sledd Creek embayment of Ky Lake, Marshall; Spindletop Farm = University of Kentucky Spindletop Research Farm, Fayette; SNP = State Nature Preserve; SP = State Park; SRP = State Resort Park; Surrey Hills Farm, ne. Jefferson; Upper Hickman Bottoms, n. of Hickman, Fulton; Waitsboro = Lake Cumberland at Waitsboro Recreation Area, Pulaski; West Ky WMA, McCracken; Wickliffe, Ballard; Wildcat Creek = Wildcat Creek embayment, Ky Lake, Calloway; WMA = Wildlife Management Area; Wolf Creek Dam, Russell.

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** – there were two reports: 4 were present on some small transient ponds about 2 mi. nw. of Mosely Pond, Logan, 5 August (ph. FL et al.)–7 August (BFe); it was subsequently learned that the birds had been present for about three weeks (B&RW, *fide* FL); also reported were 2 at Frogue Lake, 3 mi. s. of Elkton, Todd, 21-25 May and again a couple of times during September (†JBc). KBRC review required.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** – an injured bird remained at Mitchell Lake, Ballard WMA, through the season (m. ob.); otherwise, 1 at Sauerheber 9 October (CC); 2 at Lake Peewee 23/30 October (BP); and ca. 120 over Schochoh, Logan, 26 October (ph. ST) were the earliest to be reported. At Sauerheber, 250 were there by 28 October (CC) with 1000 there by 16 November (CC); also of interest was 1 at Cave Run Lake, Rowan, 10 November (ph. BWu, BP, MWr).

**Snow Goose** – 1 was at Sauerheber 28 October (CC) with 2500 there by 16 November (CC); an imm. at Melco 27 November (BP) was a local first.

**Ross's Goose** – 1 was near Lake Barkley w. of Cadiz, Trigg, 20 November (ph. PFo); at least 3 were at Long Point by 30 November (BP).

**Tundra Swan** – 3 at Sauerheber 7 November (CC) were the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 11 on the Ohio River at Carrollton, Carroll, 12 November (BP, ph. MY) and an imm. on Cave Run Lake 19-23 November (BP, ph. BWu).

**Gadwall** – 1 at Camp #11 on 17 September (BP) was the earliest to be reported; local peak counts included at least 650 on Hon-

ker Lake, LBL, 200 on Lake Barkley s. of the mouth of Honker Bay, Trigg, and 250+ on Lake Barkley n. of US 68, Trigg, all 30 October (BP); 250 at Camp #11 on 2 November (BP, EHu, ABa); 200+ on Barren River Lake 13 November (BP); 150 on Otter Pond, Caldwell, 16 November (BP, EHu); and 200+ on Cave Run Lake 19 November (BP, BWu).

**American Wigeon** – an injured female lingered at Camp #11 through the season (BP, EHu).

**Mallard** – 150-175 surely consisting of local family groups were on Halls Store Pond 10 August (BP, EHu, MSt).

**Blue-winged Teal** – 30-35 on Halls Store Pond and 3 on some small transient ponds about 2 mi nw. of Mosely Pond, Logan, both 10 August (BP, EHu, MSt) likely represented local breeders from earlier in the summer. Local peak counts included 51 at Camp #9 and 100+ at Camp #11, both 31 August (BP, EHu); at least 215 at Camp #11 on 13 September (BP); 210 at Blood River 12 September (HC); 620+ at Camp #11 on 2 October (BP); 115 at the Falls of the Ohio 3 October (DSt); and 156 at Jonathan Creek 6 October (HC). Fifteen at Waitsboro 7 November (RD) and 2 at the Falls of the Ohio 10 November (MA) were the latest to be reported.

**Northern Shoveler** – 2 at Camp #11 on 12 August (BP, EHu) with 3 there 15 August (BP, EHu, BWu), and 2 at Lexington 14 August (SM, RBr) were the earliest to be reported; 58 over Douglass Hills 23 October (MY) were relatively unusual for the location.

**Northern Pintail** – 1 at Minor Clark 12 September (BWu) was the earliest to be reported; at least 15 at Sauerheber 20



October (BP, BBC) and at least 12 at Camp #11 on 2 November (BP, EHu, ABa) represented very modest peak counts.

**Green-winged Teal** – 2 at Camp #11 on 15 August (BP, EHu, BWu) were the earliest to be reported; modest peak counts included at least 50 w. of Miller 24 October (BP) and 200+ at Camp #11 on 25 October (BP) with 250+ there 2 November (BP, EHu, ABa).

**Canvasback** – 2 at Camp #11 on 2 November (BP, EHu, ABa) were the earliest to be reported.

**Redhead** – 2 at Camp #11 on 25 October (BP) and 1 at Minor Clark 30 October (BWu) were the earliest to be reported; local peak counts included 10+15 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (BP); 20 on Cave Run Lake 19 November (BP, BWu); ca. 80 on Green River Lake, *Adair* (RD), and ca. 50 on Freeman Lake (RH), both 23 November; and 32 on Barren River Lake 25 November (BP).

**Greater Scaup** – 2 on Lake Barkley above the dam 29 October (BP) were the earliest to be reported.

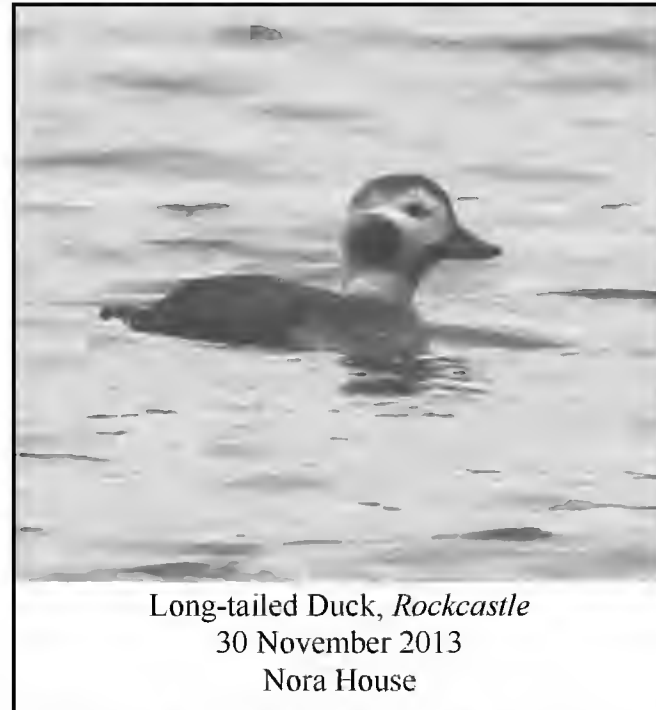
**Lesser Scaup** – 12+ on Lake Barkley above the dam 18 September (BP) were likely injured birds continuing from summer; local peak counts included 1000+ on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, by 29 October (BP) with 2000+ there 5 November (EHu, BP, ABa) and at least a few thousand there 15 November (BP, EHu); 100 at Waitsboro 7 November (RD); and at least 150 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (BP).

**White-winged Scoter** – there were three reports: 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (DSt, BP, et al.); 2 on Green River Lake, *Adair*, 19 November (RD); and 1 on Lake Barkley s. of the mouth of the Crooked Creek embayment, *Trigg*, 20/21 November (ph. BP/HC, BL).

**Black Scoter** – there were five reports: 1 on Lake Barkley above the dam 5 November (EHu, BP, ABa); 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 8 November into December (BP et al.) with 5 (2+3) there 12 Novem-

ber (DSt, BP, et al.); 4 on Green River Lake, *Adair*, 23 November (RD); and 1 on Ky Lake off Sherwood Shores, *Marshall*, 29 November (BP).

**Long-tailed Duck** – there were two reports: a female on Lake Linville, *Rockcastle*, 18-30 November (ph. NH, RD, JSo) and a female above Meldahl Dam, *Bracken*, 20 November (JBr).



Long-tailed Duck, *Rockcastle*  
30 November 2013  
Nora House

**Bufflehead** – local peak counts all occurred 12 November and included impressive tallies of at least 168 on the Ohio River at Louisville (BP et al.), ca. 150 on the Lexington Reservoirs (JSo), 50 on the Ohio River at Catlettsburg, *Boyd* (CT), and 60 on Grayson Lake, *Carter* (DP).

**Common Goldeneye** – 300+ on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 29 November (BP) represented the season's peak count.

**Common Merganser** – 2 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (DSt) and 10 on Green River Lake, *Adair*, 23 November (RD) were relatively early.

**Red-breasted Merganser** – modest peak counts included 12 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (BP et al.); and 14 on Cave Run Lake (BWu) and 20 on Lake Cumberland above Wolf Creek Dam (RD), both 23 November.

**Ruddy Duck** – 2 on Lake Barkley above the dam 8 October (BP, EHu) were the earliest to be reported; local peak counts included 120+ on Lake Barkley above the

dam by 23 October (BP), with 700+ there 29 October (BP), and possibly 1000 there 15 November (BP, EHu); and 111 on Barren River Lake 27 October (BP, EHu).

**Red-throated Loon** – there was one report: an ad. on Green River Lake, *Adair* 12/13 November (ph. RD/JSo).

**Common Loon** – likely summering individuals were above Ky Dam and on Lake Barkley near Kuttawa, *Lyon*, both 2 August (JSo, EHu) with the bird above Ky Dam continuing into September (BP, EHu, RC, et al.); other early reports included 1 on Cave Run Lake 17 August–1 September (BWu et al.); 1 ne. of Owensboro, *Daviess*, 28 August (†JKi); 2 on Lake Cumberland above Wolf Creek Dam 20 September (RD); and 1 on Ky Lake off Big Bear Creek 25 September (BP). Eight were on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, by 23 October (BP); with 10 on Barren River Lake, 30 on Green River Lake, *Adair*, and 8 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, all 27 October (BP, EHu); and 15 on Lake Peewee 30 October (BP). Local peak counts included 44 on Green River Lake, *Adair* (RD), and at least 60 on Ky Lake, *Marshall* (EHu, BP, ABa, HC), both 5 November; 58 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 7 November (EHu); at least 70 on Barren River Lake 8 November (BP); 70-80 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 15 November (BP, EHu); 30 in Smith Bay and at least 40 in Pisgah Bay, LBL, *Lyon*, both 16 November (BP, EHu); and 70-75 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 29 November (BP).

**Pied-billed Grebe** – local peak counts included at least 50 on Freeman Lake 23 October (BP); 75+ on Barren River Lake 27 October (BP, EHu) with 125 there 8 November (BP); 80 on Cave Run Lake 27 October (BWu); at least 100 on Lake Peewee 30 October (BP); and 40 on Green River Lake, *Adair*, 30 November (RD).

**Horned Grebe** – ca. 20 were on Green River Lake, *Adair*, by 27 October (BP, EHu); modest peak counts included 100-125 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 29 October (BP) with 200+ there 15 November (BP, EHu) and 400-500 there 29 November (BP).

**Red-necked Grebe** – there were two reports: 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (ph. BP et al.) and 1 on Cave Run Lake 19-30 November (†BP, BWu, JSo, et al.).

**Eared Grebe** – there were two reports: 2 at Camp #11 on 9 October (ph. BP, EHu) and 1 at Ky Dam Village 15/23 November (BP, EHu/HC, ME).

**Double-crested Cormorant** – reports of interest included 425 on the Ohio River at Louisville 30 October (DSt); 415 overhead se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 3 November (JBy, MBy); and ca. 500 on the Ohio River at Uniontown, *Union*, 4 November (CC).

**American White Pelican** – reports of interest included singles at the Falls of the Ohio 1 August (DSt) and 4 November (BP, ABa); 19 in the vicinity of Lake No. 9 on 3 August (EHu, JSo); 10 at Honker Bay, LBL, *Lyon*, 24 August (JP); 33 over the Mississippi River, *Carlisle*, 2 September (MMo, EHu, BP); 2 on Lake Barkley above the dam (possibly injured) during September and October (BP et al.); 8 at the Falls of the Ohio 11 October (AGo, BP); 42 on the Ohio River near Mt. Vernon, IN, *Union*, 14 October (ph. CC); 200 over Long Point 24 October (BP); and 800-1000 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 29 October (BP).

**American Bittern** – there was only one report: 1 at Camp #11 on 2 October (BP).

**Great Blue Heron (white morph)** – 1 was at Freeman Lake 23 October (ph. BP).

**Great Egret** – local peak counts included ca. 100 at Barlow Bottoms WMA, *Ballard*, 2 August (BP, MMo); 15-16 on some small transient ponds ca. 2 mi. nw. of Mosely Pond, *Logan*, 5/10 August (FL et al./BP, EHu, MSt) with 18 there 6 September (FL); 35 at Melco 12 August (EHu, MA, BP) with an impressive peak tally of 45 there 28 August (EHu); at least 400 that came to the roost n. of Hickman 20 August (BP); 75+ at Eddy Creek 31 August (EHu, BP); 200+ on a slough adjacent to Island No. 1 on 1 September (BP, EHu); 82 at Camp #11 on 13 September

(BP); at least 80 at Doug Travis WMA, *Hickman*, 26 September (BP); and ca. 200 still adjacent to Obion WMA 27 September (BP, EHu). Tardy individuals included 21 still at Eddy Creek 4 November (EHu); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio to 7 November (BP); 2 at Melco 13 November (BP); 1 at Sinclair 16 November (RD, HC, ME); and 1 adjacent to Obion WMA 30 November (BP).

**Snowy Egret** – reports of interest included 4 at Calvert City, *Marshall*, 1/2 August (BP, MMo/EHu, JSo); 5 at Little River 31 August (BP, EHu); 1 at Honey Cypress Slough, *Henderson*, 3 September (CC); and 11 at Doug Travis WMA, *Hickman*, 11 September (BP, EHu). One at Eddy Creek 8 October (BP, EHu) was the latest to be reported.

**Little Blue Heron** – 50-75 came to roost at the heronry on Lake Barkley s. of US 68, *Trigg*, 1 August (BP, MMo, EHb, CPo) with 100-150 at the same locality 31 August (BP, EHu); other reports of interest included 23 at the Hickman harbor 3 August (EHu, JSo); 1-2 at some small transient ponds ca. 2 mi. nw. of Mosely Pond, *Logan*, 8-10 August (FL et al.) with 2 on an unnamed pond just nw. of Parsons Pond 26 August (JSo); 15 at Mitchell Lake, Ballard WMA, 21 August (BP); and 4-6 at Camp #11 from 25 August to 13 September (BP, EHu).

**Cattle Egret** – at least 500 came to roost at the heronry on Lake Barkley s. of US 68, *Trigg*, 1 August (BP, MMo, EHb, CPo) with 1000+ at the same locality 31 August (BP, EHu). There were three reports away from w. Kentucky: 3 at Melco 8 August (BP) that were a local first, with 1 still there 14 August (BP, MA, BWu); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 22 August (JG, CFa, EHu); and 1 along C. Cauley Road, sw. *Logan*, 6 September (FL).

**Green Heron** – at least 25 at Minor Clark 10 August (BWu) with 35 there 18 August (VS) represented the season's peak counts.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** – reports of interest included 5 at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*, 14 August (TN) with 3 still there

16 August (TN); 3 on Green River Lake, *Adair*, 17 August (RD); 2-4 on Guist Creek Lake 10-12 September (DL, RD, JSo); and 2 at Minor Clark 6 November (BWu).

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** – the only report was for an ad. at the Falls of the Ohio 8 August (PC) with perhaps the same bird nearby on a breakwater at the head of Shippingport Island 20 August (JSo).

**Glossy/White-faced Ibis** – 2 unidentified *Plegadis* ibis were at Blood River 10 October (ph. HC).

**Roseate Spoonbill** – a juv. was present at Guist Creek Lake 4-13 September (ToC, ph. TeC, *fide* KP, NA, et al.). KBRC review required.

**Black Vulture** – 320 counted at the Falls of the Ohio 11 October (BP) represented a local high count.

**Turkey Vulture** – 330 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 12 August (JBy, MBy) represented the season's peak count.

**Osprey** – singles at Barren River Lake 2 November (JBy, MBy, NG); over Douglass Hills 2 November (MY); and at the Falls of the Ohio 14 November (DSt, PHt) were the latest to be reported.

**Swallow-tailed Kite** – there were two reports: 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 12 August (†MBy, JBy, SBy, MkB, HBe) and 1 adjacent to the LBL Elk & Bison Prairie, *Trigg*, 14 August (†CS).

**Mississippi Kite** – 1 was at Sinclair 10 August (BP, EHu, MSt) with 3 there 15 August (BP, EHu, BWu); a juv. along Upper Bottom Road, e. of Island No. 1, *Carlisle*, 11 September (BP, EHu) and single juvs. over Wickliffe, *Ballard*, and near the Lake No. 9 pumping station, *Fulton*, both 14 September (BP) were the latest to be reported.

**Broad-winged Hawk** – the peak count for the season was 340 total over Douglass Hills 21 September (MMo).

**Red-tailed Hawk** – a dark morph Harlan's Hawk along Clear Creek, *Hopkins*, 4 November (ABa, BP) was certainly one of



two Harlan's that were first seen at that location during the winter of 2005-2006.

**Rough-legged Hawk** – there were three reports: 1 over Douglass Hills 30 October (ph. MY); 1 adjacent to Camp #11 on 2 November (ABa, EHu, BP); and 1 in n. *Shelby*, 15 November (HBr).

**Golden Eagle** – there were two reports: a juv. se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 19 November (MBy) and 1 at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 29 November (JBe, PB).

**Virginia Rail** – 5 were heard at Long Point 24 October (BP).

**Sora** – reports of interest included 1 n. of Lamero, *Rockcastle*, 24 August (RD); singles se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 26 August/19 September (MBy); 3 at Camp #11 on 24 September (BP); and 5 at Sauerheber 20 October (BP, BBC). One adjacent to Obion WMA 24 October (BP, BL) and 2 at Surrey Hills Farm 28 October (BP, MMo) were the latest to be reported.

**Common Gallinule** – the only report was for an extraordinarily tardy bird at Figgett Bend, *Hart*, 10 November (†JSo).

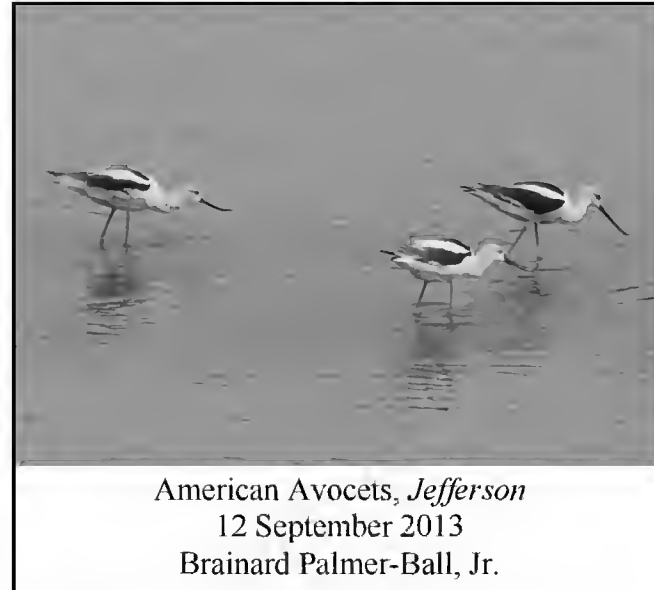
**American Coot** – 1 on Otter Pond, *Caldwell*, 19 August (BP) may have been summering; otherwise, 1 at Sauerheber 27 September (CC) was the earliest to be reported. Local peak counts of interest included 1700+ on Barren River Lake (BP, EHu) and 4500+ on Cave Run Lake (BWu), both 27 October (BWu, BP); ca. 2700 still on Cave Run Lake 19 November (BWu); 1000 on Ky Lake, *Calloway* 1 November (HC, ME); and 1400 at Waitsboro and 600 on Lake Cumberland above Wolf Creek Dam, both 7 November (RD).

**Sandhill Crane** – 1 was present along Airline Road, *Henderson*, 3 September (CG, *fide* AGE); otherwise, 10 over Louisville 13 October (SW) and ca. 60 over Otter Creek Park, *Meade*, 15 October (CL) were the earliest to be reported; there were more flocks than normal reported from the w. portion of the state (LBL and points west) during the season (HC, CS, BP, et al.).

**Black-necked Stilt** – there were reports from three locales: 1 in the Upper Hick-

man Bottoms 3/20 August (EHu, JSo/BP); 8 at Open Pond and 15 w. of Miller, both 20 August (BP); and 1 w. of Miller 11 September (BP, EHu) last seen there 14 September (BP).

**American Avocet** – there were four reports: 5 at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (EHu, BP, et al.) with 1 there 9 September (PHT); 3 at Melco 12 September (ph. BP); and 1 on Ky Lake s. of Ky Dam Village 8 October (BP, EHu).



American Avocets, *Jefferson*  
12 September 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

**Black-bellied Plover** – there were reports from only five locales: 1-2 at Camp #11 on several dates 10 September (BP)–9 October (BP, EHu); 2 at Camp #9 on 17 September (BP) with 3 there 19 September/2 October (BP); 1 at Jonathan Creek 21 September (MMi); 1 at Blood River 24 September (HC); and 1 at Wildcat Creek 25 September/1 October (HC).

**American Golden-Plover** – reports of interest included 1 at Melco 21 August (MA, EHu) with 2-3 there 12-15 September (BP, EHu, et al.); singles on several dates at the Falls of the Ohio 20 August–7 September (JSo, DSt, TB, et al.); 4 at Parsons Pond 26 August/11 September (JSo/FL) with 1 there to 14 September (FL); 1-6 at Camp #9 on several dates 28 August–24 September (BP, EHu) with a peak count of 31 there 31 August (BP, EHu) and 1 last seen there 9 October (BP, EHu); 5 at Minor Clark 30 August (BWu) with singles present on numerous dates to 24 September (BWu et al.); 4 at Little River 31 August (BP, EHu); 11 from Island No. 1 to Campbell Dikes 3 September (BP,

EHu, MMo); 1-3 at Eddy Creek 31 August–13 September (BP, EHu); 52 adjacent to Obion WMA 11 September (BP, EHu) that established a new high fall count for the state; 1-2 at Blood River 27 August–12 September (HC); 1 at Fishing Creek 12 September (RD); 4 w. of Miller 14 September (BP); 1 at Jonathan Creek 16/18 September (MMi/BL); 1 at Sauerheber 29 September (BY, MY); and a tardy bird on Lake Barkley n. of US 68, *Trigg*, 16 November (EHu, BP).

**Semipalmated Plover** – modest peak counts included 15 at Island No. 1 on 3 September (BP, EHu, MMo) and 8 at Camp #11 on 13 September (BP).

**Piping Plover** – there was one report: a color-banded bird was present at the downstream end of Island No. 9 on the Mississippi River, *Fulton*, 11 September (ph. BP, EHu). The bird had been banded as a chick on the Missouri River near Yankton, South Dakota, during the summer 2013 (*fide* MF).

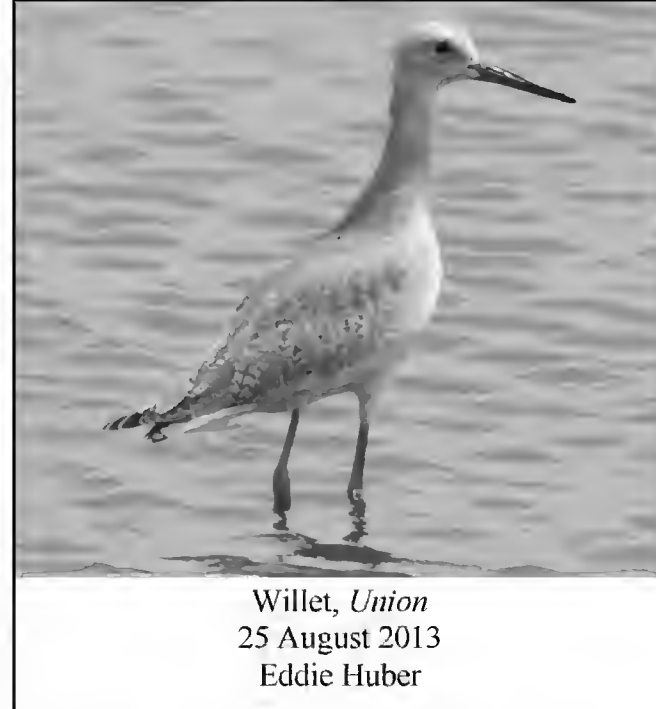
**Killdeer** – local peak counts included 220 at Camp #9 on 7 August (BP, EHu) with 200+ there 28 August (BP, EHu) and ca. 200 there 19 September (BP); ca. 200 at Melco 14-25 August (MA, EHu, BP); 130+ at the Falls of the Ohio 31 August (BP, EHu) with at least 125 there 12 September (BP); 107 at the J.C. Jones Road Sinkhole Ponds, *Hart*, 17 August (JSo); 300+ adjacent to Obion WMA 11 September (BP, EHu); and 140 at Jonathan Creek 13 November (HC).

**Spotted Sandpiper** – 18 at the Falls of the Ohio 21 August (BD) and 15 at Blood River 27 August (HC) represented the peak counts for the season; singles at Eddy Creek 30 October (BP) and at the Falls of the Ohio 13 November (BP) were the latest to be reported.

**Greater Yellowlegs** – 18 w. of Miller 24 October (BP) represented a modest peak count for the season; 1 at Cave Run Lake, *Bath*, 10 November (ph. BP); 1 sw. of Absher, *Adair*, 12 November (RD); 1 at Lake Barkley above the dam 15 November (BP, EHu); and 1 at the Casey Creek embayment of Green River Lake, *Adair*,

23 November (RD) were the latest to be reported.

**Willet** – a juv. was present at Camp #11 on 25-28 August (BP, EHu).



Willet, *Union*  
25 August 2013  
Eddie Huber

**Lesser Yellowlegs** – 48 at Open Pond 20 August (BP) represented a modest peak count for the season; 4 at Blood River 7 November (HC) and 9 at Open Pond 8 November (HC, ME) were the latest to be reported.

**Upland Sandpiper** – there were five reports: 1 at Open Pond 4 August (JSo, EHu) with singles heard overhead there 20 August/11 September (BP/BP, EHu); 1 heard over John U. Young Road 5 August (BP); and 1 seen in flight se. of Whaynes Corner, *Hickman*, 20 August (BP).

**Ruddy Turnstone** – an ad. male was at Camp #9 on 24 September (BP); a juv. was at Blood River 18 September (BP).

**Stilt Sandpiper** – reports of interest included 5 at Camp #9 on several dates 7 August–17 September (BP, EHu) with 7 there 19 September (BP); 1 at Hays Kennedy Park, *Jefferson*, 13-14 August (KB); 4 at Open Pond 20 August (BP); 8 at Melco 24-28 August (EHu/BP, et al.) with 6 there to 1 September (BP, MSt); 8 at Jonathan Creek 30 August (HC); 8 at Camp #11 on 31 August (BP, EHu) with 5 there to 17 September (BP) and 2 still there 2 October (BP); 1 at Eddy Creek 9 September (DMA); 5 at Minor Clark 17 October

(BWu); and 1 at Sauerheber 20 October (BP, BBC).

**Sanderling** – there were reports from only four locales: 2 at the Falls of the Ohio 5-8 August (EHu et al.) with 1 there on several dates to 21 August (BD, EHu) and a peak count of 7 there 26 August (EHu); 1 at Ky Dam Village 30 August (RC); 1 at Eddy Creek 9 September (DMA); 2 at the Falls of the Ohio 12 September (BP) with 1 there on several dates to 25 September (DSt); and 1 at Jonathan Creek 18-20 September (BP et al.).

**Dunlin** – reports of interest included 24 at Sauerheber 20 October (BP, BBC); 5 at Campbell Dikes and 32 at Camp #9, both 25 October (BP); 13 at Sledd Creek 29 October (BP); 28 on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 30 October (BP); 32 at Minor Clark 30 October (BWu); 21 at the Dry Creek Unit 2 November (JBy, MBy); and 22 at Cave Run Lake 19 November (BP).

**Baird's Sandpiper** – reports of interest included 1-2 at Melco 12-28 August (MA, EHu, JSo, et al.) with 3 there 22 August (EHu); 1-3 at Camp #9 on several dates 15 August–10 September (BP, EHu, et al.); 3 at the Falls of the Ohio 24 August (BD) with 1-2 there through 7 September (BD); 1 at Little River 31 August (BP, EHu); 5 at Island No. 1 on 3 September (BP, EHu, MMo) with 2 there 11 September (BP, EHu); 1-3 at Minor Clark 3-20 September (BWu et al.) with 4 there 10 September (BWu) and a peak count of 5 there 12 September (BWu); 2 at Fox Chase Pond, ne. of Frazer, *Wayne*, 21 September (RD) with 1 still there 22 September (RD); and a tardy bird at the Falls of the Ohio 22 October (BP).

**Least Sandpiper** – the season's first juvs. were seen on a slough along Horseshoe Road, w. *Henderson*, 7 August (BP, EHu). Local peak counts included 475+ in the Upper Hickman Bottoms and 100+ at Open Pond, both 20 August (BP); 70+ at Camp #11 on 21/31 August (BP/BP, EHu); 110+ at Campbell Dikes and at least 300 at Open Pond, both 11 September (BP, EHu); 120+ w. of Miller 14/27 September (BP); 75+ at Camp #9 on 19

September (BP) with 70+ still there 2 October (BP) and ca. 50 still there 25 October (BP); and at least 50 still at Jonathan Creek 5 November (HC, BP, ABa). One at the Falls of the Ohio 24 November (BP) and 3 at Open Pond, *Fulton*, 30 November (BP) were tardy.

**White-rumped Sandpiper** – there were reports from four locales: an ad. at Camp #11 on 7/15 August (BP, EHu/ph. BP, EHu, BWu) was likely the same bird that had been seen nearby at Camp #9 during July, with probably the same bird back at Camp #9 on 21 August (ph. BP); 1 on an unnamed pond nw. of Parsons Pond 26 August (JSo); 2 at Camp #9 and 1 at Camp #11, both 17 September (BP) with 1 lingering at Camp #9 to 19 September (BP); and 1 at Minor Clark 17-21 September (BWu, et al.).



White-rumped Sandpiper, *Rowan*  
17 September 2013  
Brian Wulker

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** – it was not a good season for the species with well below average numbers reported as follows: 1 at Obion WMA 3 August (JSo, EHu); 1 at Open Pond 4 August (EHu, JSo); 2 at Camp #11 on 25-31 August (BP, EHu) with 1 there on several dates to 13 September (BP, EHu); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 26 August (EHu) with 3 there 28 August (MA, TB) and 1-2 there to 12 September (DSt, TB, JG, et al.); 1 at Little River 31 August (BP, EHu); 1 at Camp #9 on a few dates 10-17 September (BP); 1 at Campbell Dikes 11 September (BP, EHu); and 1 at Jonathan Creek 18 September (BP).



**Pectoral Sandpiper** – local peak counts included 57 at John U. Young Road 5 August (BP, FL, et al.); ca. 60 at Melco 6 August (BP) with 85 there 14 August (MA); 100+ in the Upper Hickman Bottoms and 100+ at Open Pond, both 20 August (BP); 55+ at Camp #11 on 17 September (BP); and 38 at Jonathan Creek 18 September (BP). One at the Dry Creek Unit 2 November (JBy, MBy); a few at Jonathan Creek 5 November (HC, BP, ABa); 5 at Blood River 7 November (HC); and 17 at Minor Clark 6 November (BWu) with 4 there 10 November (BWu) were the latest to be reported.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** – modest peak counts included ca. 50 at Open Pond 3 August (EHu, JSo) and 50-60 at Island No. 1 on 1 September (BP, EHu); 2 at Wildcat Creek 10 October (HC) were the latest to be reported.

**Western Sandpiper** – reports of interest included 1 at Open Pond 3 August (EHu, JSo); 1 at Melco 28 August (BP); 2 at Jonathan Creek 30 August (HC) with 3 there 20 September (ME); 1-3 at Camp #9 on several dates 4-24 September (BP, EHu); 10 at Campbell Dikes (BP) and 2 at Blood River (HC), both 11 September; and 1 at Minor Clark 19-24 September (BWu et al.).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** – reports of interest included 1-3 at Melco 13-28 August (BP, EHu, MA, et al.); 15 in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 20 August (BP); 3 at Blood River 22 August (HC); 3 at Wildcat Creek 23 August (HC); 1 at Minor Clark 24/28 August (BWu); 1 at Parsons Pond 26 August (JSo); and 3 on the Mississippi River, *Carlisle*, 2 September (BP, EHu, MMo).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** – there were five reports: 1 at Minor Clark 19-22 September (ph. BWu et al.); 1 at Fox Chase Pond 21 September (ph. RD); 5 at Sauerheber 23 October (AGa); 1 heard w. of Miller 24 October (BP); and 1 at Sauerheber 3 November (JM).

**Wilson's Snipe** – 100 at Sauerheber 24/29 October (CC) represented the season's peak count.

**Wilson's Phalarope** – there were two reports: 1 at Elizabethtown, *Hardin*, 22 August (ph. JSo); and 1 at Minor Clark 1 September (ph. BWu, VS).

**Red/Red-necked Phalarope** – there were two reports of unidentified phalaropes with obvious pale wing stripes: 1 seen in flight and sitting out in the middle of Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 7 October (†BP, EHu) and 1 seen in flight and sitting out in the middle of Green River Lake, *Adair*, 3 November (†RD).

**Red Phalarope** – 1 was at Campbell Dikes 25 October (ph. BP). KBRC review required.

**Sabine's Gull** – a juv. was on Ky Lake off Sherwood Shores, *Marshall* 18-19 September (ph. BP, ph. EHu). KBRC review required.

**Bonaparte's Gull** – a juv. was present at the Falls of the Ohio 13 August (BP); local peak counts of interest included at least 700 at Barren River Lake 13 November (BP) and 205 at Green River Lake, *Adair*, 23 November (RD).

**Laughing Gull** – all of the reports came from just two locales: 3 juvs. at Ky Dam 13 August (DSi); a second-year bird at Ky Dam 16-19 August (BP, EHu, ME); a second-year or ad. at Lick Creek 31 August (BP, EHu); and 3 (2 ads. and a juv.) at Ky Dam 1 September (BP, EHu, MMo) with the juv. still there 2 September (BP, EHu, MMo).

**Franklin's Gull** – there were reports from nearly a dozen locales as follows: single first-year birds in the vicinity of Ky Dam on a number of scattered dates 1 September (BP, EHu, MMo)–11 November (BL); single birds at Jonathan Creek 19 September/13 November (BP, EHu/HC); 1 on Lake Barkley above the dam 8/9 October (BP, EHu/JSo); 2 at Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 27 October (BP, EHu) with 1 at Green River Lake, *Adair*, 3-5 November (BP, EHu, ph. RD); 2 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 30 October (BP); 10 at Barren River Lake 1-2 November (JBy, MBy, NG) with 1 there 13 November (BP); 4 at Sledd Creek 5 November (EHu, BP, ABa); 12 at

Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*, 9 November (ph. RD) that were a local first; and 1 on Lake Barkley n. of US 68, *Trigg*, 16 November (BP, EHu).

**Ring-billed Gull** – early season peak counts included ca. 1375 at Ky Dam Village & Ky Dam 2 August (EHu, JSo) with at least 1000 in the vicinity of Ky Dam 16/21 August (BP, EHu/BP).

**Herring Gull** – 2 at Ky Dam 16 August (BP, EHu) were the earliest to be reported; 10-15 were there by 1 September (BP, EHu); 7 were at the Falls of the Ohio 7 October (BP, EHu).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** – 2 second/third-year birds at Ky Dam 16/17 August (BP, EHu/ME) were quite early; those birds and several others were observed on numerous dates through the season at several different locales including Ky Dam, Ky Dam Village, Sledd Creek, on Ky Lake s. to the mouth of Big Bear Creek, and also on Lake Barkley from the dam to Lick Creek. As many as 6 individuals were seen on a single day (8 October [BP, EHu]), and an ad. was seen at Blood River 5 November (BP, ABa). Also reported was an ad. at Green River Lake, *Adair*, 3-5 November (BP, EHu, ph. RD) that was a local first.

**Least Tern** – reports of interest included 30+ at Island No. 1 on 2 August (BP, MMo) with 40+ there 21 August (BP); 2 at Island No. 1 and 2 at Swan Lake, *Ballard*, both 2 September (MMo, EHu, BP) were the latest to be reported.

**Caspian Tern** – modest peak counts included 9 at the Paradise Power Plant ash pond, *Muhlenberg*, 10 August (BP, EHu, MSt); 40+ at Lick Creek 31 August (BP, EHu); and 28 at Wildcat Creek 23 August (HC, ME) with 29 there 1 October (HC).

**Black Tern** – it was a good season for the species with reports from nearly a dozen locales: 4 at Parsons Pond 7 August (FL) with 8 there 10 August (BP, EHu, MS) and 3 there 26 August/11 September (JSo/FL); 1-6 at Camp #11 on a several dates 7-21 August (BP, EHu); 1 along C. Cauley Road, *Logan*, 9 August (FL); singles

at Minor Clark 10 August/17 September (BWu) with 6 there 12 September (BWu); 3 at John U. Young Road 10 August (BP, EHu, MSt); singles at Fishing Creek 13/24 August (RD); 13 over Wickliffe 2 September (MMo, EHu); 10 below Smithland Dam, *Livingston*, 10 September (BP, EHu); 2 over Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 17 September (BP); 4 at Cave Run Lake 22 September (BWu); and 1 at Ky Dam Village 25 September (BP).

**Common Tern** – there were five reports: 2 at Fishing Creek 13 August (RD); 1 at Ky Dam Village 17 September (BP); 5 over Ky Lake off Big Bear Creek 18 September (BP); 4 at Cave Run Lake 22 September (BWu); and a tardy individual at Freeman Lake 8 November (ph. BP).

**Forster's Tern** – local peak counts included 52 at Jonathan Creek by 28 August (HC) with at least 140 there 30 October (BP, ME); 70+ at Ky Dam Village 25 September (BP); 120+ on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 7 October (BP, EHu) with at least 100 in the same area and another 100+ on Lake Barkley above the dam, both 8 October (BP, EHu); and ca. 60 at Sledd Creek 5 November (BP, EHu, ABa). Lingered birds on Ky Lake included 16+ at Big Bear Creek 15 November (BP, EHu); and 6 at Sledd Creek and 2 at Big Bear Creek, both 21 November (BP).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** – 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 21 October (RD) was the latest to be reported.

**Black-billed Cuckoo** – there were two reports: singles se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 18/27 August (JBy, MBy/MBy).

**Barn Owl** – there were two reports: a chick was reported at Cave City, *Barren*, 27 September (CE); and 1 at a traditional nesting area in e. *Calloway* 1/3 October (HC, BL).

**Snowy Owl** – 1 was present at the Louisville International Airport 26 November–3 December (SBu, ph. KT, CPa, et al.). KBRC review required.

**Short-eared Owl** – there were reports from seven locales: 1 along Puncheon Creek, *Allen*, 20 October (JBy, MBy); 1 at Spin-

dletop Farm 7 November (MT, ph. CFI, DL); 2-3 at Sinclair 7 November through the season (P&SF); 8 at Sandy Watkins Park, *Henderson*, 19 November (ph. CC); 1 on Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 20 November (DMo); 6 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 28-29 November (ST, et al.); and 1 w. of Cayce, *Fulton*, 30 November (BP).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** – it was an “off” year for the species with only 4 new birds banded at Surrey Hills Farm 2-10 November (MMo et al.); however, on 2 November a banded bird was caught that had been originally banded at Surrey Hills Farm 27 October 2012 (MMo), the first returning bird from one year to another for the site. Also reported were 1 w. of Kessinger, *Hart*, 9 November (SK, JKs) and 1 se. of Doughton, *Pendleton*, 29 November (JKa).

**Common Nighthawk** – 1 over Glasgow, *Barren*, 14 October (LC) was the latest to be reported.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will** – 1 heard near Big Gimlet, *Elliott*, 17 September (EM) was the latest to be reported.

**Chimney Swift** – 1 at Berea 12 October (RF, RBA) was the latest to be reported.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** – only a few birds lingered into mid-October with the latest including 2 near Iroquois Park 14 October (RT); 1 s. of Haywood, *Barren*, 19 October (ph. L&RY); and 1 at Douglass Hills 24 October (ph. MY).

**Rufous Hummingbird** – there were seven reports: a returning female s. of Haywood, *Barren*, 7 August through the period (ph. L&RY et al.); an ad. male along Fords Mill Road, *Woodford*, for a few weeks late August–mid-September (ph. TO); a returning female nw. of Uno, *Hart*, 24 August through the period (MSn, ph. BP, et al.); an ad. male se. of Hardyville, *Hart*, mid-August–11 September (banded on 6 September) (ph. MH, ba. BP); an ad. female at Winchester, *Clark*, early November through the period (banded 14 November) (B&RE, ba. BP); an imm. male ne. of Berea early November through the period (banded 18 November) (BS, ba.

BP); and an ad. male at Lexington mid-October through the period (banded 22 November) (DBu, ba. BP).

**Merlin** – extraordinarily early was a report of 2 at Bowling Green, *Warren*, 8 August (†TD); also reported were 2 over Douglass Hills 21 September (MMo); singles over Minor Clark (BWu, GW) and s. of Smith Mills, *Henderson* (BP), both 24 September; singles se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 30 September & 15/25/27 October (MBy, JBy, et al.); 1 at the WKU Farm, *Warren*, 5 October (TD); 1 at Sauerheber 8 October (RD, HC, ME); 3 at Sinclair 2 November (EHu, ABa, BP); and 1 at Joe Creason Park, Louisville, 16 November (SW).

**Peregrine Falcon** – there were 16 reports of migrants away from known nesting territories: 1 at Fishing Creek 4 September (RD); 1 at Lexington 7 September (DL, ASK); 1 at Guist Creek Lake 11 September (RD); 1 at Eddy Creek 14 September (EHu); 1 at Camp #9 on 17 September (BP); singles over Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 18/19 September (BP/EHu, BP); 2 over Douglass Hills 21 September (MMo); singles over Minor Clark 24/27 September (BWu, GW/BWu); 2 over Camp #11 on 2 October (BP); 1 at Jonathan Creek 6 October (HC); 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 7 October (MBy); 1 at Lincoln Homestead SP, *Washington*, 10 October (ML); 1 just e. of Sonora, *Hardin*, 23 October (WM); and 1 over Long Point 24 October (BP). In addition, likely wintering birds were observed at Markland Dam, *Gallatin*, 24 November (BP) and near the US 68 bridge over Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 29 November (BL).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** – it was a good season with eight reports: 2 at LBL, *Trigg*, 16 August (BL) with another at the LBL Elk & Bison Prairie, *Trigg*, 16 August (BP, EHu); 1 at Gunpowder Creek Nature Park, *Boone*, 18 August (LM); 1 at Hickman 20 August (ph. BP); 1 at Cherokee Park 2 September (RBo); singles at the LBL Nature Station, *Lyon/Trigg*, and at Honker Lake, LBL, *Lyon*, both 4 September (JSi); 1 at Energy Lake, LBL, *Trigg*, 5



September (JSi); and 1 at J.J. Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 16 September (KM).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** – it was a good season for the species with reports from 11 locales as follows: singles se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 18/20/25 August (JBy, MBy); 1 at Berea 25 August (PHg); singles on the Anchorage Trail 26 August/4 September (JBe, PB, et al.); singles at Cherokee Park on several dates 9 September–2 October (RL, BD, et al.); 1 at LBL, *Lyon*, 10 September (DMa); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 12 September (BP); 1 at Fishing Creek 15 September (RD); 1 at Taylor Fork Ecological Area, *Madison*, 19 September (ba. DBr/KW et al.); 1 on the Anchorage Trail 19 September (JBe, PB, BBC); 1 at Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*, 22 September (RD); 1 at Obion WMA 27 September (BP, EHu); and 2 at Ballard WMA 28 September (BP, KOS).

**Acadian Flycatcher** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 5 October (MBy) was the latest to be reported.

**Alder Flycatcher** – 4 were heard calling (“pip” notes) with 2 of those seen at and adjacent to Long Point 20 August (ph./† BP); 1 was seen and heard calling (“pip” notes) at Camp #11 on 24 September (ph./† BP).

**Willow Flycatcher** – singles at Camp #11 until 19 August (BP et al.); at Sinclair 23 August (JSO); and at Melco 24 August (TB) were the latest to be reported.

**Least Flycatcher** – 1 on the Anchorage Trail 21 August (JBe, PB) was the earliest to be reported.

**Eastern Kingbird** – singles at Minor Clark 24 September (BWu, GW), at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 26 September (BFR, BBC), and at Ky Bend, w. *Fulton*, 27 September (EHu, BP) were the latest to be reported.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** – 3 (a female and 2 juvs.) were still present near the w. *Webster* nesting location 7 August (ph. EHu, BP) with 2 (a female and a juv.) last seen there 15 August (BP, EHu, BWu).

**Northern Shrike** – an ad. was at Camp #11 on 2 November (ph. EHu, ABa, BP). KBRC review required.

**Bell’s Vireo** – 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 30 August (DMo) and 1 still singing at Camp #11 on 4 September (BP, EHu) were the latest to be reported.

**Blue-headed Vireo** – 1 at Cherokee Park 14 September (JBe, PB) was the earliest to be reported away from breeding areas.

**Red-eyed Vireo** – 1 at Green River Lake, *Adair*, 17 October (RD) was the latest to be reported.

**Fish Crow** – at least 10-12 were heard with American Crows (seemingly migrating) over Obion WMA 24 October (BP, BL); other tardy birds included at least 2 at Jonathan Creek 30 October (BP) with at least 1 there to 8 November (MMi), and 1 at Blood River 7 November (HC).

**Common Raven** – 1 at Carr Creek Dam, *Knott*, 7 September (RD) was not near a known nesting territory.

**Purple Martin** – several thousand were observed at a roost at Cannonsburg, *Boyd*, during early August (SF); ca. 5000 were observed at a roost at Renfro Valley, *Rockcastle*, 19 August (SF); a substantial roost of 20,000-30,000+ was present on the Louisville waterfront during mid-August (m. ob.).

**Tree Swallow** – 6 at Camp #11 on 2 November (BP, EHu, ABa) and 25+ at Obion WMA 8 November (HC, ME) were the latest to be reported.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** – at least 700 were at Ky Bend, w. *Fulton*, 27 September (BP, EHu); an unspecified number at Sauerheber (CC) and at least 1 w. of Miller (BP), both 24 October, and 2 near Dot, *Logan*, 25 October (FL) were the latest to be reported.

**Barn Swallow** – 1 at Cave Lake, *Wayne*, 23 October (RD) and at least 10 w. of Miller 24 October (BP) were the latest to be reported.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** – the species was quite scarce this fall with singles reported from less than a dozen locales, mostly after mid-October. Singles at Douglass Hills 26 September (MY); at Big Bone Lick SP, *Boone*, 28 September (P&RW);

and at Nolin Lake, *Hart*, 13 October (SK, JKs) were the earliest to be reported.

**Brown-headed Nuthatch** – at least 2 remained at the 2013 nesting location at Ky Dam Village through the season (m. ob.).

**House Wren** – singles at Cave Run Lake, *Rowan*, 19 November (BP, BWu), at LBL, *Trigg*, 29 November (BL), and in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 30 November (ph. BP) were the latest to be reported.

**Sedge Wren** – there were reports from seven locales: 2 seen and heard at Sinclair 10 August (BP, EHu, MSt); 3 seen and heard at Camp #11 on 12/15 August (BP, EHu/BP, EHu, BWu); at least 5 singing at Long Point 20 August (BP); 1 seen along Straightline Road, w. *Henderson*, 24 September (BP); 1 heard at West Ky WMA 26 September (BP); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 15/18 October (BP); and 1 at Sauerheber 16 October (CC) with 4 there 20 October (BP, BBC).

**Marsh Wren** – there were reports from 11 locales as follow: 1 along Straightline Road, w. *Henderson*, 24 September (BP); 1 at Ballard WMA 26 September (BP); 1 at Sauerheber 29 September/20 October (BY, MY/BP, BBC) with 2 there 16 October (CC); singles at Camp #11 on 2 October/2 November (BP/BP, EHu, ABa); 4 at Spindletop Farm 4 October (DL, ASK) with 3 there 5 October (JSo); 1 at Sandy Watkins Park, *Henderson*, 10 October (CC); 1 at Sinclair 12 October (BP, SG, TG, MSt); 2 at Iroquois Park 13 October (BP); 3 at the Beaver Creek Wetlands in the headwaters of Cave Run Lake, *Menifee*, 18 October (BWu); 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 21 October (RD); 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 22 October (BP, MMo); and 3 adjacent to Obion WMA 24 October (BP, BL).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** – a tardy bird was at Honker Bay, LBL, *Lyon*, 29 November (ph. BP).

**Wood Thrush** – 1 at Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*, 21 October (RD) was the latest to be reported.

**Gray Catbird** – singles at Obion WMA 8 November (HC, ME) and at Green River

State Forest, *Henderson*, 29 November (ph. CC) were tardy.

**American Pipit** – singles at Open Pond 14 September (BP) and over Surrey Hills Farm 22 September (BP) were the earliest to be reported; 150 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 29 November (MBy, JBy) and 140+ w. of Cayce, *Fulton*, 30 November (BP) represented the peak counts for the season.

**Lapland Longspur** – 1 was present at the Twin Knobs Beach, Cave Run Lake, *Rowan*, 10/19 November (BP, BWu); 200+ were near Open Pond, *Fulton*, 30 November (BP).

**Worm-eating Warbler** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 29 September (MBy) was the latest to be reported.

**Louisiana Waterthrush** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 29 August (MBy) was the latest to be reported.

**Northern Waterthrush** – singles se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 15 August (MBy) and on the Anchorage Trail 23 August (JBe, PB) were the earliest to be reported.

**Golden-winged Warbler** – fall reports continue to be too numerous to list; reports of interest included 1 in w. *Franklin* 30 August (JSo) [earliest]; at least 6 at Cherokee Park 13 September (AM) with 1-2 there on several dates 13-25 September (BD, RBo, AM, et al.); 4 at the Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union*, 14 September (KM); 6 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 15 September (JBy, MBy, NG) with 4 there 29 September (MBy); 2 at Lake Cumberland WMA 19 September (RD); 2 at Pulaski County Park 21 September (RD); 2 at Little Lick Recreation Area, *Pulaski*, 22 September (RD); and 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 5 October (MBy) [latest].

**Blue-winged Warbler** – a tally of 11 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 31 August (JBy, MBy) was impressive.

**Brewster's Warbler** – singles were found se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 31 August (JBy, MBy), 2 September (JBy), and 4 October (MBy).

**Lawrence's Warbler** – there were two reports: a male was at Lake Cumberland

WMA, *Pulaski*, 30 August (RD); and 1 was se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 7 September (MBy).

**Tennessee Warbler** – a tally of 82 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 29 September (MBy) was noteworthy.

**Orange-crowned Warbler** – reports of interest included 1 at Apple Valley Glade State Natural Area, *Bullitt*, 17 September (BWo); 2 at West Ky WMA 8 October (BP, EHu); 3 at Iroquois Park 18 October (MA, DSt); 3 at LBL, *Trigg*, 18 October (BL); 2 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 26 October (MBy); 1 at the Jenny Hole Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 3 November (CC); and 1 at Eureka Campground, *Lyon*, 5 November (EHu).

**Nashville Warbler** – 1 at Douglass Hills 3 November (MY) was the latest to be reported.

**Mourning Warbler** – there were eight reports: 1 along Red Hill Road, *Allen*, 26 August (ABr, JBk); 2 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, both 31 August/1 September (JBy, MBy) with singles there 2/8/11 September (JBy, MBy); 1 along Pointer Creek Road, *Pulaski*, 5 September (RD); 1 w. of Lake No. 9 on 14 September (BP); and 1 at Taylor Fork Ecological Area, *Madison*, 16 September (ba, DBr).

**Kentucky Warbler** – 1 at Berea 5 October (RF, RBa) was the latest to be reported.

**Common Yellowthroat** – singles at Griffith Woods WMA, *Harrison*, 1 November (DL) and at Obion WMA 8 November (HC, ME) were the latest to be reported.

**Cerulean Warbler** – reports of migrants of interest included 1 at Pope Lick Park 11 August (JBe, PB); an impressive tally of 6 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 18 August (MBy); and a tardy bird at the latter locale 31 August (MBy).

**Magnolia Warbler** – 1 at Iroquois Park 19 October (MC, BBC) was the latest to be reported.

**Bay-breasted Warbler** – 1 on the Anchorage Trail 21 August (JBe, PB) was the earliest to be reported.

**Blackburnian Warbler** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 16 October (MBy) was the latest to be reported.

**Yellow Warbler** – a male at Green Turtle Bay Resort, *Lyon*, 18 September (BP) and 2 at Fort Hill, Frankfort, 21 September (JSo) were the latest to be reported.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** – 1 at Pope Lick Park 18 August (JBe, PB, CBe, JG) was the earliest to be reported; 1 at the Big South Fork National Rec. Area, *McCreary*, 20 October (RD) was the latest to be reported.

**Blackpoll Warbler** – there were three reports: 1 at Blackacre SNP, *Jefferson*, 28 September (†MA, BBC); 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 29 September (†MBy); and 1 at Berea 7 October (†RF, RBa).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** – reports of interest included 1 at the Casey Creek embayment of Green River Lake, *Adair*, 15 September (RD); a male at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 15 September (SP); 1 on the Anchorage Trail 17 September (JBe, PB, JG); and a male at J.J. Audubon SP, *Henderson*, 13 October (KM).

**Palm Warbler** – 6-10 were still at Lexington 29 November (TN).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** – 6 at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt* (BFr, BBC), and 1 at Ballard WMA (BP), both 26 September, were the earliest to be reported.

**Black-throated Green Warbler** – 1 at Douglass Hills 30 October (MY) was the latest to be reported.

**Canada Warbler** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 17 August (JBy, MBy) with 2 there 18 August (JBy, MBy), and 2 on the Anchorage Trail 23 August (JBe, PB) were the earliest to be reported.

**Wilson's Warbler** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 7 October (MBy) was the latest to be reported.

**Yellow-breasted Chat** – singles at Blackacre SNP, *Jefferson*, 28 September (MC, BBC) and at Lincoln Homestead SP, *Washington*, 10 October (ML) were the latest to be reported.



- Bachman's Sparrow** – the only report was of 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 30 August (DMo).
- American Tree Sparrow** – 4 along Straightline Road, w. *Henderson*, 9 November (KM) were the earliest to be reported.
- Field Sparrow** – a total of at least 300 was tallied at Sinclair on 12 October (BP, MSt, SG, TG).
- Vesper Sparrow** – reports of interest included 3 at Sauerheber 20 October (BP, BBC); 3 at Surrey Hills Farm 28 October (BP); 3 at Minor Clark 30 October (BWu); and a tardy bird se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 29 November (MBy).
- Savannah Sparrow** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 1 September (MBy, JBy, MBr) was the earliest to be reported away from known breeding areas.
- Grasshopper Sparrow** – 2 at Sandy Watkins Park, *Henderson*, 7 September (ph. CC) and 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 22 October (BP, MMo) were the latest to be reported.
- Henslow's Sparrow** – 1 was at Surrey Hills Farm 22 October (BP, MMo).
- Le Conte's Sparrow** – 3 adjacent to Obion WMA 24 October (BP, BL) were the only ones reported.
- Lincoln's Sparrow** – at least 34 tallied at Sinclair 12 October (BP, MSt, SG, TG) represented a new state one-day high count. Six still there 2 November (BP, ABa, EHu); 2 along Clear Creek, *Hopkins*, 4 November (BP, ABa); and 1 at Garvin Brown Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 5 November (AM) were the latest to be reported.
- White-crowned Sparrow** – 1 at West Ky WMA 26 September (BP) was the earliest to be reported.
- Summer Tanager** – singles at Holmes Bend Recreation Area, *Adair*, 17 October (RD) and se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 19 October (MBy) were the latest to be reported.
- Scarlet Tanager** – a male at Yatesville Lake WMA, *Lawrence*, 20 November (SF) was very tardy.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – 2 at Cherokee Park to 27 October (RBo et al.) were the latest to be reported.
- Blue Grosbeak** – 1 along National Turnpike, s. *Jefferson*, 17 October (MA) was the latest to be reported.
- Indigo Bunting** – singles at Sinclair 2 November (BP, EHu, ABa) and along Klondike Road w. of Sauerheber 3 November (JM) were the latest to be reported.
- Dickcissel** – a female was still carrying food at Sinclair 10 August (BP, EHu, MSt); a female carrying food and 2 juvs. were at Long Point 20 August (BP). One heard at Camp #9 on 13 September (BP); 2 at Sauerheber 14 September (KM); and 1 at Sinclair 12 October (BP) were the latest to be reported.
- Bobolink** – reports of interest included 1 along Horseshoe Road, *Henderson*, 3 September (CC); 15 at Spindletop Farm 5 October (DL, ASK) with 12 still there 7 October (JSo); 1 heard over Camp #11 on 9 October (BP); and 1 adjacent to Obion WMA 24 October (BP, ph. BL).
- Western Meadowlark** – 1 was heard singing at the May 2013 nesting location a few miles wsw. of Cayce, *Fulton*, 30 November (BP).
- Rusty Blackbird** – 1 at Minor Clark 17 October (ph. BWu) was the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 29 October (MBy); ca. 80 total at Hays Kennedy Park & Garvin Brown Preserve, *Jefferson*, 20 November (MWa); 45 along Pointer Creek Road, *Pulaski*, 24 November (RD) and at least 350 at Long Point 25 November (BL).
- Brewer's Blackbird** – there were four reports: a female at Camp #9 on 25 October (BP); 8 along Frostburg Road, e. *Hopkins*, 2 November (BP, EHu, ABa); 2 w. of Cecilia, *Hardin*, 4 November (BP, ABa); and 6 se. of Whaynes Corner, *Hickman*, 30 November (BP).
- Purple Finch** – the species was remarkably scarce this fall with less than a dozen reports, all of single birds reported from scattered locales.

**Addenda to the Summer 2013 Report:**

**Stilt Sandpiper** – 1 was at the Dry Creek Unit 20 July (MBy, JBy).

**Barn Owl** – 48 confirmed nest locations and 10 non-breeding locations were documented in 34 counties across central and western portions of the state during the 2013 inventory conducted by the Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources; this was nearly twice the number recorded

during a similar effort undertaken in 2010 (Heyden 2014).

**Peregrine Falcon** – 10 traditional nesting territories were occupied during the 2013 nesting season; 9 nests were successful in fledging 30 yg. Two new sites were occupied (downtown Lexington and a different bridge over the Ohio River at Louisville), but successful nesting did not occur or was not confirmed at either site (Arnold and Heyden 2013).

**Observers:** Nancy Adams (NA), Audubon Society of Kentucky (ASK), Michael Autin (MA), Alan Barron (ABa), Rebecca Bates (RBa), Henry Beachy (HBe), Jamin Beachy (JBy), John Beachy (JBc), Makaya Beachy (MkB), Matthan Beachy (MBy), Sarahann Beachy (SBy), Tom Becker (TB), Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Jane Bell (JBe), Pat Bell (PB), Carol Besse (CBe), Karen Bonsell (KB), Rod Botkins (RBo), David Brown (DBr), Horace Brown (HBr), Abraham Brubaker (ABr), John David Brubaker (JBk), Matthew Brubaker (MBr), John Brunjes (JBr), Rhonda Bryant (RBr), P. David Burke (DBu), Sean Burns (SBu), Mike Callan (MC), Hap Chambers (HC), Philip Chaon (PC), Linda Craiger (LC), Charlie Crawford (CC), Rodney Crice (RC), Ted Critchfield (TeC), Tom Critchfield (ToC), Brian Davis (BD), Roseanna Denton (RD), Tom Durbin (TD), Melissa Easley (ME), Bob & Rosemary Ekes (B&RE), Chris Everson (CE), Connie Farmer (CFa), Blaine Ferrell (BFe), Caleb Fligor (CFI), Priscilla Fontechia (PFo), Preston & Shari Forsythe (P&SF), Rob Foster (RF), Scott Freidhof (SF), Meryl Friedrich (MF), Bill Friel (BFr), Judy Galitzine (JG), Allen Gathman (AGa), Alan Gehret (AGe), Carol Gehret (CG), Noah Glick (NG), Alan Goldstein (AGo), Steve Graham (SG), Teresa Graham (TG), Paul Hager (PHg), Patrick Haulter (PHt), Richard Healy (RH), Michael Hensley (MH), Nora House (NH), Emily Huebener (EHb), Eddie Huber (EHu), Joe Kappa (JKa), Janet Kistler (JKs), Steve Kistler (SK), Jim Kittinger (JKi), Rob Lane (RL), David Lang (DL), Bill Lisowsky (BL), Charlie Logsdon (CL), Mikey Lutnerding (ML), Frank Lyne (FL), Scott Marsh (SM), Don Martin (DMa), William McLean (WM), Lee McNeely (LM), Andrew Melnykovich (AM), John Meredig (JM), Keith Michalski (KM), Mike Miller (MMi), Mark Monroe (MMo), Evelyn Morgan (EM), Daniel Moss (DMo), multiple observers (m. ob.), Tina Nauman (TN), Tammy Ott (TO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP), C.R. Parish (CPa), David Pashley (DP), Sydney Penner (SP), Kathy Philips (KP), John Pollpeter (JP), Constance Powell (CPo), Vicki Sandage (VS), Damien Simbeck (DSi), James Sipiora (JSi), Brenda Slone (BS), Jeff Sole (JSO), Matt Stickel (MSt), Del Striegel (DSt), Mitch Sturgeon (MSn), Joe Swanson (JSw), Carrie Szwed (CS), Charles Thompson (CT), Russ Thompson (RT), Mark Tower (MT), Charles & Gretchen Tremoulet (C&GT), Kevin Turner (KT), Steve Tyson (ST), Major Waltman (MWa), Sean Ward (SW), Bobby & Ryan Watkins (B&RW), Katheryn Watson (KW), Barbara Woerner (BWo), Mike Wright (MWr), Brian Wulker (BWu), Gale Wulker (GW), Peggy & Rich Wyman (P&RW), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY), Lew & Ruth Young (L&RY).

**Additional Sources:**

Arnold, M.J., and K. Heyden. 2013. 2013 Kentucky Peregrine Falcon Report. Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Frankfort, KY.

Heyden, K. 2014. 2013 Barn Owl Inventory Report. Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Frankfort, KY.

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 2013-2014

Blaine R. Ferrell

Reports of 31 counts were received from across the Commonwealth. A total of 133 species (five fewer than last year) was observed during count days. Sixteen species were observed on all counts and 11 species were observed on only one count during count days.

Once again, temperatures were relatively mild, especially during the beginning of the count period. It is hard to look at a temperature trend in that nine counts were conducted 14 December, only a few counts were conducted 18-27 December, with the remainder of the counts being conducted 28 December to 4 January. The temperature extremes were 13°F for the London count 4 January and a high temperature of 60°F for the Hart County count 19 December.

Although quantitative conclusions regarding species numbers and population trends based on Christmas Bird Count data are not possible, there are some observations that are of interest. Waterbird numbers seemed to be up for selected species such as Redhead, Green-winged Teal, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, and Horned Grebe with numbers of other species flat or slightly down from last year. Northern Bobwhite numbers were up slightly. American White Pelican numbers were down again during the count period (1193 in 2012, 304 last year, and 171 this year). Raptor numbers were similar to raptor numbers last year across the board. The number of American Coots was about half of that for last year. Blackbird numbers were down from last year, but more typical for recent years. Despite the similarity of weather conditions between this year and last year, it was interesting that Red-breasted Nuthatch numbers were off, and there were almost none of the irruptive winter finches observed last year. Rarity highlights of this year's count included two Lesser Black-backed Gulls (Land Between the Lakes), a Black Scoter (Louisville), a Long-tailed Duck (Land Between the Lakes), five Virginia Rails (Paradise), two Marsh Wrens (Paradise and Bernheim Forest), a Sedge Wren (Ballard County), a Le Conte's Sparrow (Paradise), and an Indigo Bunting (Somerset). There were 377 observers in the field this year compared with 400 a year ago.

Thanks to the many observers and compilers who participated in this year's count and submitted count results on the appropriate forms. Also, thanks to compilers who submitted documentation for unusual species to the editor and to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. Records of species unusual for the count do not constitute official records unless approved by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee.

**Ballard County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at junction KY 358 and Stove Corner Road; 37.12284°, -088.9518°). Habitat as described in 1984. Dec. 17; 5:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST; Mostly clear. temp. 26-46°F; wind NW, 5-15 m.p.h. Water mostly frozen.

Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 14.5 (8.5 on foot, 6 by car). Total party-miles 105 (2 on foot, 103 by car). Hours owling: 1. Total species 85; total individuals 47,558.

Observers: Hap Chambers, Rodney Crice, Melissa Easley, Eddie Huber, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), and Scott Record.

The weather was favorable for detecting birds. The species total (85) was below average for this count in recent years, in large part due to the absence of diving ducks. Highlights included 320 Greater White-fronted Geese, a juvenile Golden Eagle, and a Peregrine Falcon at the Ballard WMA; at least three Ross's Geese with a flock of Snow Geese near Bandana, Ballard County; a Sedge Wren adjacent to the West Kentucky WMA, McCracken County; and three Brewer's Blackbirds near Oscar, Ballard County. Red-headed Woodpeckers were present in good numbers in the bottomland forests, but we did not spend much time in that habitat to tally a large total again this year.

(continued on page 22)





Northern Shrike, Union Co.  
2 November 2013  
Eddie Huber



Rufous Hummingbird, Hart Co.  
6 September 2013  
Michael Hensley



Sabine's Gull, Kentucky Lake  
19 September 2013  
Eddie Huber



Sabine's Gull, Kentucky Lake  
19 September 2013  
Eddie Huber



Alder Flycatcher, Fulton Co.  
20 August 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, Logan Co.  
5 August 2013  
Frank Lyne





Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Trigg Co.  
29 November 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



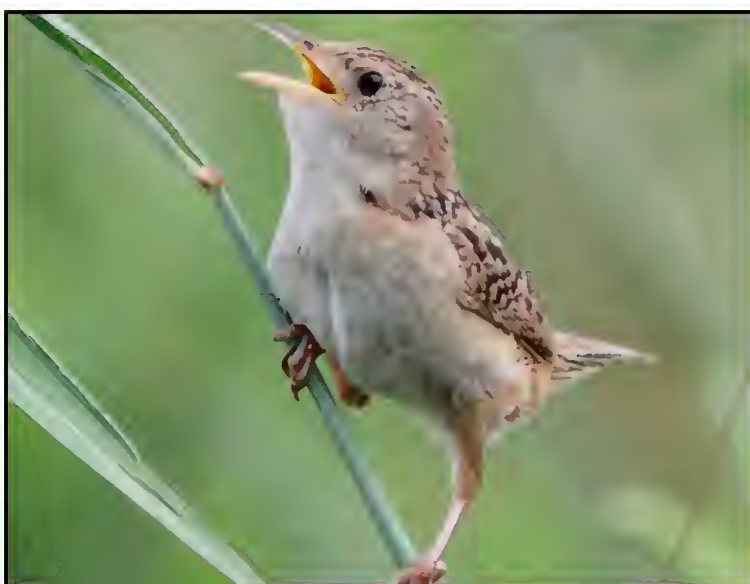
Least Bittern (juv.), Muhlenberg Co.  
3 September 2013  
Steve Graham



Rufous Hummingbird, Hart Co.  
1 November 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Piping Plover, Fulton Co.  
11 September 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Sedge Wren, Union Co.  
12 August 2013  
Eddie Huber



Franklin's Gulls, Lincoln Co.  
9 November 2013  
Roseanna Denton

**Calloway County** (all points within a 15 mile diameter circle, center Douglas Cemetery; 36.5984°, -088.1958°). Habitat: 20% lake shoreline and streams, 35% open fields, 30% residential, and 15% deciduous and pine woods. Dec. 27; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 23-53°F; wind S-SW, 6 m.p.h.

Seven observers in four parties. Total party-hours 30 (5 on foot, 25 by car). Total party-miles 172.5 (4.5 on foot, 168 by car). Total species 87; total individuals 5903.

Observers: Hap Chambers (compiler), Kathy Cohen, Mike Cohen, Joe Hall, Bob Head, Darrin Samborski, and Aviva Yasgur.

**Land Between the Lakes** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Pisgah Creek, one-quarter mile west of the Trace; 36.9333°, -088.1167°). Habitat as described in 1984 in *American Birds*. Dec. 14; 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky 100% overcast with dense fog in the a.m., temp. 36-39°F; winds calm in the early morning with off and on periods of rain. Winds increased after noon, W 15 m.p.h. About ¾ in of rain fell overnight before the count.

Nineteen observers in eight parties. Total party-hours 56.5 (11.5 on foot, 45.0 by car). Hours feeder watching 1.0. Total party-miles 401.2 (10.0 on foot, 391.2 by car). Total species 98; total individuals 18,442.

Observers: Dan Allison, Lora Ann Bailey, Mitz Bailey, Emily Belinfante, Shannon Brockway, Hap Chambers, James David Chiles, Melissa Easley, Sarah Flarsheim, Brooke Gilley, Bill Lisowsky, Paula Lisowsky, John Pollpeter, Elizabeth Raikes, Darrin Samborski, Carrie Szwed, Josh Szwed, Julie Watson, and Aviva Yasgur (compiler).

This year, we were surprised by the fairly high species total of 98. The weather conditions did not seem very promising. Up until the day of the count, we had experienced a two-week period of unseasonably cold temperatures (most days not getting much above freezing), as well as a winter storm that dumped two inches of sleet over the area. The low temperatures had caused many of the bays on the lakes to freeze, which is quite uncommon this early in the winter. The night before the count, however, the temperatures rose a bit as a rainy front moved through. By the morning of the count, much of the ice in the bays had melted, but it continued to rain during the morning. There was also heavy fog until about 10:30 a.m., making it very difficult to see for much of a distance until the rain stopped.

We didn't really observe many unusual birds this year; the most unusual was a Long-tailed Duck observed in Sledd Creek on Kentucky Lake. Another bird that is not unusual for our region but is also not typically seen on our count, a Peregrine Falcon, was seen at Kentucky Dam. We observed almost all of the expected species with the exception Eastern Phoebe. Species seen in higher numbers than usual included Horned Grebe, Northern Flicker, Winter Wren, Brown Thrasher, American Tree Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, and Swamp Sparrow. Those seen in lower numbers than usual included Bufflehead (a several-year trend), Ruddy Duck, Double-crested Cormorant, Rock Pigeon, and White-breasted Nuthatch (a several-year trend). Thanks to all of the participants who helped count this year!

**Sorgho** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Hwy. 279-S and Audubon Parkway intersection; 37.76297°, -087.23086°). Habitat: county parks, farm land, woods, river bottoms, river, ponds and urban parks. Jan. 1; 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Morning clear, afternoon slight overcast; temp. 30-44°F; wind 5-10 m.p.h.

Eighteen observers in nine parties. Total party-hours 34.50 (5.00 on foot, 22.75 by car, other 1.50). Total party-miles 252.0 (7.5 on foot, 244.5 by car). Total species 71; total individuals 9232.

Observers: Patricia Augenstein, Mike Brown, Henry Conner, Brenda Eaden, Tony Eaden, Janie Hancock, Mike Henshaw, Janet Howard (compiler), Jim Kinsey, Pam Kinsey, Mary Kissel, Charles Morris, Frances Tichenor, Lynn Tichenor, Marilee Thompson, Cathy Rogier, Steve Rogier, and Carolyn Williams.

Four Wilson's Snipe and two Great Horned Owls were observed during the count week, but not on the count day.



**South Logan County** [formerly **Olmstead**] (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, *new* center along Campground Road w. of KY 96; 36.73475°, -086.92451°). Habitat includes primarily open farmland, but also wooded knobs just south of Russellville, stream banks of Red River, Whip-poor-will Creek and tributaries, meadowlands, small wood lots, some field borders, sink holes, cattle ponds and transient ponds. Dec. 14; 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. steady around 40°F; wind N, 5-10 m.p.h. Light rain, intermittent mist throughout the day.

Six observers in four parties. Total party-hours 28.50 (12.75 on foot, 15.25 by car). Total party-miles 172 (6 on foot, 166 by car). Hours owling: 0.5. Total species 58; total individuals 3744.

Observers: Frank Lyne (compiler), Allison Lyne, Michael Autin, Steve Graham, Teresa Graham, and Steve Tyson.

The Olmstead count circle was shifted about three miles to the southeast this year to accommodate some new participants and, thus, the count was renamed South Logan County. Most of the areas covered in previous years were still covered this year except for Lake Herndon. A number of commonplace birds were missed but we did have a few interesting highlights. Michael Autin saw a Pied-billed Grebe on Red River. Steve Tyson saw and heard 9 Tundra Swans flying overhead. The Grahams saw what was shown by their photo to be a Hooded Merganser, our only duck. Steve Tyson and I both saw Short-eared Owls. The Grahams, Alison and I saw Wild Turkeys. Two teams saw a few Rusty Blackbirds, Red-winged Blackbirds and Brown-headed Cowbirds, but no one saw a Common Grackle. Steve Tyson and I both saw a few Lapland Longspurs in with many Horned Larks. Michael Autin saw a large flock of American Pipits and our only Brown Creeper. The Grahams saw our only Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Steve Tyson saw our only Northern Bobwhites and Northern Harriers. Two Barn Owls were roosting in the silo I have permission to check.

**Paradise** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at Hopewell Cemetery in southern Ohio County; 37.27755°, -086.95868°). Habitat as described in 1993. Dec. 29; 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST. Sky cloudy and light rain in early a.m.; partly cloudy midday; cloudy and breezy late p.m.; temp. 27-48°F; wind SW, 0-5 m.p.h. during a.m. shifting to NW 5-20 m.p.h. during p.m. Water mostly open.

Eight observers in four to five parties. Total party-hours 42.5 (24.0 on foot, 18.5 by car). Total party-miles 134 (6 on foot, 128 by car). Hours owling: 2.0. Total species 91; total individuals 59,795.

Observers: Steve Graham, Teresa Graham, Eddie Huber, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Patrice Pittman, Matt Stickel, Barbara Woerner, and Mary Yandell.

Weather conditions during the early morning and late afternoon hampered efforts to detect birds. The species total (91) was slightly above average for this count during recent years; the higher total was mostly due to the detection of a variety of hard-to-find or unusual species. Highlights included a Ross's Goose, three Tundra Swans, a juvenile Golden Eagle, five Virginia Rails (calls heard at three locations in Muhlenberg County), a small flock of Sandhill Cranes, two Barn Owls, four Short-eared Owls, four Merlins, a House Wren, a Marsh Wren, a Lapland Longspur, and a Le Conte's Sparrow. Raptor numbers were above average for recent years; especially the numbers of Red-tailed Hawk and Northern Harrier, and two Rough-legged Hawks were detected this year. Accompanying the Tundra Swans was a single adult Trumpeter Swan that is not included in the tally. Also not included in the tally were tens of thousands of blackbirds observed flying overhead in the morning and evening moving to and from night-time roosts.

**Bowling Green** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Three Springs, six miles s. of Bowling Green; 36.9159°, -086.4359°). Habitat: deciduous woods 20%, fields and pastures 50%, streams and ponds 10%, and town and parks 20%. Dec. 16; 7:00 a.m. to

4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy, to partly cloudy to clear; temp. 35-51°F; wind SW, 10-15 m.p.h.

Five observers in three parties. Total party-hours 22.5 (7.5 on foot, 15.0 by car). Total party-miles 264.25 (4.50 on foot, 259.75 by car). Total species 79; total individuals 8346.

Observers: Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Valerie Brown, Ian-Michael Mason, Wayne Mason, and David Roemer.

**Western Allen County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center one half mile west of jct. KY 2136 (Towe Road) and Shores Road; 36.71278°, -086.3469°). Habitat as described in 2012. Dec. 14: 6:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. CST. Sky overcast; temp. 38-47°F; wind S-NW, 0-20 m.p.h. Scattered showers during the morning; drizzled all afternoon.

Thirty-six observers in 16 parties. Total party-hours 91.5 (41.0 on foot, 4.5 by car, 37.5 by horse and buggy). Hours feeder watching 8.5. Total party-miles 94.6 (25.0 on foot, 69.5 by horse and buggy, 0.1 by canoe). Total species 83; total individuals 17,828.

Observers: Jamin Beachy, Matthan Beachy, Abraham Brubaker, Alvin Burbaker, Amanda Brubaker, Daniel Brubaker, Jennifer Brubaker, John David Brubaker, Lewis Brubaker, Matthen Brubaker, Rosemarie Brubaker, Stephen Brubaker, Timothy Brubaker (compiler), Herman Gingerich, Mahlon Gingerich, Jeremiah Habegger, Leon Habegger, Mahlon Habegger, Philip Habetter, Ethan Hoover, Jamin Hoover, Joseph Hoover, Justin Hoover, Matthew Hoover, Philemon Hoover, Emma Marlene, Daniel Marlene, Malinda Marlene, Raymond Miller, David Roemer, Allen Shirk, Alta Shirk, Elvin Shirk, Jared Tupper, Laura Tupper, and Jonathan Tupper.

South wind changed to northwest with rain changing to a drizzle during the day. Highlights were Greater White-fronted, Ross's, and Snow Geese, Redhead, and Bald Eagle. It wasn't the best day for flying birds like Sandhill Cranes. We had a great day in spite of the nasty weather. We beat our last year count (71) by adding 12 species.

**Eastern Allen County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center along Rhoden Creek, 3.0 miles n. of Holland, Ky., Post Office; 36.7426°, -086.06855°). Habitat: woods, creeks, fields (bare and grassy), headwaters and shores Barren River and Lake, and small towns and yards. Dec. 28; 3:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. CST. Mostly cloudy with a little sun mid-morning; temp. 28-49°F; wind S, 0-10 m.p.h. Water open.

Twenty observers in 10-12 parties. Total party-hours 84.5 (56.0 on foot, 14 by car, and 14.5 by horse and buggy). Total party-miles 235.5 (38.5 on foot, 169 by car and 28 by horse and buggy). Hours owling: 6.0. Total species 88; total individuals 22,138.

Observers: Jamin Beachy (co-compiler) Makaya Beachy, Matthan Beachy (co-compiler), Sylan Beachy, Daniel Brubaker, Lisa Brubaker, Matthew Brubaker, Raymond Brubaker, Stephen Brubaker, Timothy Brubaker, Warren Brubaker, Andrew Gingerich, Wilbur Gingerich, Noah Glick, Ethan Hoover, Joseph Hoover, Matthew Hoover, David Roemer, Ruben Stroll, and Daniel Troyer.

The fourth Eastern Allen County count was a great success with a substantial increase in both the number of species and individuals. There were several highlights including 7 Least Sandpipers, 3 Short-eared Owls, a Pine Warbler, and a Common Goldeneye. There were also many new high counts set for the number of individuals, with good counts of Pileated Woodpecker (90), Golden-crowned Kinglet (105), Hermit Thrush (20), Palm Warbler, (22), and Eastern Phoebe (44), among many others. Always one of the greatest factors of a pleasant count is the absence of rain, which waited until the very last minutes of the count. Participation was excellent with 20 observers logging 84 party-hours in the field. We greatly appreciated all of the help that provided valuable data. Thanks to all and hope to see you next winter.

**Mammoth Cave National Park** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at Park Headquarters; 37.18644°, -086.1101°). Habitat as described in 1980. Dec. 15; 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to sunny; temp. 30-35°F; wind NW, 0-5 m.p.h.



Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 8.5 (4.0 on foot, 4.5 by car). Total party-miles 82 (4 on foot, 78 by car). Total species 36; total individuals 781.

Observers: Blaine Ferrell (compiler) and Albert Meier.

Five of the six Eastern Phoebes were at First Creek. A big miss was Wild Turkey.

**Hart County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center corner of Craddock Lane and Jagers Road; 37.28352°, -085.83795). Habitat: rural fields and forests; one large (Hundred Acre) pond, and Green River. Dec. 19; 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 40-60°F; wind none to light.

Eight observers in three parties. Total party-hours 17 (6 on foot, 11 by car). Total party-miles 95 (4 on foot, 91 by car). Total species 66; total individuals 10,936.

Observers: Bruce Bardin, John Brittain, Tom Durbin, Carol Friedman, Richard Healy, Steve Kistler (compiler), Jeff Sole, and Mitchell Sturgeon.

**Nolin River** [formerly **Upton**] (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.5 miles south of Hilltop, e. Grayson County; 37.38964°, -086.1137°). Habitat is woodland, farmland, river, and Nolin Reservoir. Jan. 4; 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST. Sky clear; temp. 23-39°F; wind 10-20 m.p.h.

Ten observers in two parties. Total party-hours 15 (3 on foot, 12 by car). Total party-miles 120 (1 on foot, 119 by car). Total species 62; total individuals 4043.

Observers: Bonnie Avery, Bruce Bardin, John Brittain (compiler), Carol Friedman, Dan Givens, Richard Healy, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler, Jeff Sole, and Mitch Sturgeon.

It was a sunny but windy day near the end of the count period. Ponds were frozen and most waterfowl and gulls headed south. Record numbers for Black Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, and Horned Lark were observed. A Pine Warbler was a first for the count. A large field of native grasses that had previously been the center for Short-eared Owl activity had been plowed (or mowed) and only one owl was observed. The small Brewer's Blackbird flock observed in previous years was located at the end of the day.

**Hodgenville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center courthouse square in downtown Hodgenville, Ky.; 37.57375°, -085.74038°). Habitat as described in 2011. Dec. 28; 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST. Sky partly sunny but became overcast at dusk with rain starting at 7:00 pm; temp. 37-50°F; wind 8 m.p.h.

Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 29.5 (12.5 by foot 17.0 by car). Total hours owling 0.5. Total party-miles 132 (7 on foot, 125 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 3230.

Observers: Brooks Atherton, Lyn Atherton, Michael Autin, Bill Friel, David Stewart, and Barbara Woerner (compiler).

Six observers enjoyed a pleasant day of birding, finding a total of 75 species. Highlights included four Tundra Swans (LA, BW), a juvenile Bald Eagle (BW), three juvenile Double-crested Cormorants (MA, BF, DS, BW), two Red-breasted Nuthatches (MA), a Pine Warbler (MA), and a Purple Finch (MA). There were two additional species for the count week: House Wren (MA) and Brown Thrasher (MA). A very good Christmas Bird Count, especially considering the few participants and incomplete coverage of the circle.

**Otter Creek Park** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center just west of the jct. KY 1238 and Pack Lane, about two miles sw. of the Park entrance; 37.91409°, -86.069836°). Habitat as described in 2001. Dec 19; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Sky mostly clear; temp. 35-56°F; wind W-SW, 5-20 m.p.h. Water partly frozen.

Six observers in three to four parties. Total party-hours 22.5 (11.5 on foot, 11.0 by car). Total party-miles 163.5 (6.5 on foot, 147 by car). Total species 70; total individuals 7467.

Observers: Kim Ennis, Eddie Huber, Charlie Logsdon, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Del Striegel, and Barbara Woerner.

(continued on page 34)

[illegible]

[illegible]

2013–2014 Christmas Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	South Logan County	Paradise	Bowling Green	Western Allen County	Eastern Allen County	Mammoth Cave Nat'l Park	Hodgenville	Nolin River	Hodgenville	Otter Creek Park
Black Vulture	–	–	3	11	11	56	25	244	81	–	14	164	23	62
Turkey Vulture	–	21	2	7	6	52	53	154	93	4	28	74	28	110
Bald Eagle	35	5	46	3	–	wk	1	1	4	2	1	3	1	4
Northern Harrier	10	2	2	6	4	38	3	6	7	–	2	9	1	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	wk	1	2	–	3	4	1	3	–	3	1	–	2
Cooper's Hawk	–	2	1	1	2	3	8	5	6	–	2	–	3	1
Sharp-sh./Cooper's Hawk	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	wk	–	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	9	14	9	1	–	14	1	10	17	1	3	4	5	5
Red-tailed Hawk	29	13	9	53	27	52	28	28	59	1	21	18	16	19
Rough-legged Hawk	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Golden Eagle	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Virginia Rail	–	–	–	–	–	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
American Coot	–	190	252	2	–	6	39	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Sandhill Crane	–	–	–	–	–	9	–	–	6	–	wk	103	–	546
Killdeer	20	161	49	80	123	4	40	120	204	–	9	61	53	2
Least Sandpiper	–	13	4	–	–	–	–	–	7	–	–	–	–	–
Wilson's Snipe	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	16	10	–	–	–	–	–
American Woodcock	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Bonaparte's Gull	–	1293	2877	–	–	–	–	–	800	–	–	–	–	–
Ring-billed Gull	53	1056	2842	2	–	–	19	17	200	–	–	–	–	7
Herring Gull	2	9	119	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Les. Black-backed Gull	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Forster's Tern	–	11	wk	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Rock Pigeon	30	30	44	237	3	15	355	136	313	–	21	10	39	12
Eurasian Collared-Dove	15	wk	–	42	12	–	–	–	20	–	–	–	–	3
Mourning Dove	55	40	18	197	395	48	386	1117	1301	2	103	124	183	375
Barn Owl	–	1	–	–	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	1	–	4	wk	2	–	–	2	–	2	–	1	1
Great Horned Owl	–	5	–	5	wk	3	3	wk	12	–	5	1	1	–
Barred Owl	5	6	5	2	–	2	–	2	12	–	3	wk	2	2
Short-eared Owl	–	–	–	–	7	4	–	–	3	–	–	1	–	–
Rufous Hummingbird	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Belted Kingfisher	5	2	11	3	3	12	2	3	27	1	5	3	6	5
Red-headed Woodpecker	12	4	38	–	–	8	–	10	60	–	17	–	1	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	23	59	65	25	27	25	18	121	231	8	15	16	–	18
Yel.-bellied Sapsucker	11	9	24	1	3	1	3	18	39	7	3	4	22	2



Bernheim Forest	Louisville	Shelbyville	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Warsaw	Burlington	Falmouth	Richmond	Russell-Adair County	Somerset	Wayne County	London	Cumberland Falls	Total
22	26	77	–	276	21	14	90	20	109	8	30	230	45	76	–	–	1738
5	12	22	35	13	7	71	12	–	48	11	4	181	41	95	3	1	1193
1	2	2	–	–	1	–	1	3	1	1	–	4	1	2	1	2	128
2	–	1	1	–	1	3	4	–	–	–	3	9	1	2	–	1	122
1	2	1	1	1	–	–	2	–	2	3	–	1	2	2	2	–	41
1	17	1	1	1	–	6	6	2	5	3	–	2	7	–	1	–	87
–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	4
14	14	1	–	–	1	1	2	–	1	4	1	6	17	3	15	6	179
30	21	8	5	9	5	28	21	8	21	30	12	12	36	14	15	1	649
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	wk	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3
1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5
1	33	–	140	2	–	–	37	2	30	–	57	25	22	2	5	–	845
–	5	210	19	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	183	–	–	–	–	1084
50	14	wk	1	8	–	5	18	–	19	5	3	10	102	39	41	1	1242
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	24
2	1	wk	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	8	5	–	2	–	47
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	3
–	–	–	59	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	253	19	63	–	–	5364
8	293	–	2650	–	–	–	7	8	–	14	–	80	9	66	–	85	7416
–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	133
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	11
114	1102	161	24	122	45	114	219	30	31	4	183	41	110	60	435	12	4052
–	–	–	–	wk	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	93
146	474	206	163	182	87	1048	577	280	84	192	214	90	678	787	255	144	9951
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5
–	–	1	–	–	–	6	1	2	2	3	–	2	2	–	1	–	34
2	2	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	41
2	2	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	51
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	15
–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	3
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1
3	17	4	1	3	2	5	5	3	3	3	6	4	8	1	3	1	160
–	–	–	5	–	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	3	3	3	6	185
29	47	11	14	25	–	19	26	4	30	17	12	44	64	33	42	35	1103
3	9	–	–	2	–	3	4	1	3	2	1	6	7	7	2	2	199

2013–2014 Christmas Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	South Logan County	Paradise	Bowling Green	Western Allen County	Eastern Allen County	Mammoth Cave Nat'l Park	Hart County	Nolin River	Hodgenville	Otter Creek Park
Downy Woodpecker	13	35	25	14	16	20	11	36	81	5	6	7	16	8
Hairy Woodpecker	4	17	4	11	–	11	4	10	25	1	4	3	7	8
Northern Flicker	35	16	86	13	8	35	17	49	96	2	11	4	12	13
Pileated Woodpecker	8	8	21	3	3	11	2	19	90	5	6	2	9	6
American Kestrel	16	12	9	81	24	18	29	41	97	–	34	37	18	11
Merlin	–	–	–	1	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Peregrine Falcon	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Eastern Phoebe	4	3	–	–	3	3	3	14	44	6	1	3	3	–
Loggerhead Shrike	–	–	–	1	1	–	1	4	2	–	2	1	3	–
Blue Jay	30	54	106	55	67	155	50	452	533	11	66	42	46	19
American Crow	60	71	38	26	28	151	357	239	549	6	240	136	114	269
Horned Lark	130	18	–	314	388	–	130	325	351	–	–	306	77	30
Carolina Chickadee	16	52	130	44	41	80	23	68	163	7	23	48	41	59
Tufted Titmouse	31	53	183	48	34	89	26	115	184	15	41	18	58	54
Red-breasted Nuthatch	–	1	2	–	–	3	2	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	23	44	10	6	1	4	31	92	11	6	7	22	19
Brown Creeper	4	2	3	5	2	2	3	5	13	1	wk	1	2	–
Winter Wren	4	1	2	–	–	2	1	4	26	2	5	2	3	1
House Wren	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	wk	–
Marsh Wren	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Sedge Wren	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Carolina Wren	18	56	86	34	42	65	30	109	235	7	20	13	29	42
Golden-crowned Kinglet	10	8	22	16	17	24	16	54	105	4	7	6	16	29
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	6	1	6	4	1	6	1	2	6	–	1	–	2	3
Eastern Bluebird	50	73	54	35	49	126	60	231	251	9	68	96	56	115
Hermit Thrush	8	7	29	–	–	5	5	1	20	1	2	wk	1	2
American Robin	60	136	48	193	28	136	75	2837	487	299	77	11	111	73
Northern Mockingbird	24	28	17	55	33	35	33	159	113	1	24	45	34	29
Brown Thrasher	6	1	7	1	–	3	2	26	7	–	1	–	wk	–
European Starling	1100	489	489	4527	1346	720	4920	3137	5972	175	2340	1630	864	4700
American Pipit	10	9	–	–	126	–	68	262	222	–	–	–	5	26
Cedar Waxwing	–	58	7	4	–	–	20	177	29	10	–	wk	20	–
Lapland Longspur	300	–	–	–	21	1	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Palm Warbler	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	21	22	–	2	–	–	1
Pine Warbler	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	1	–
Yellow-rumped Warbler	16	3	9	2	wk	120	29	91	216	31	20	20	55	72
Eastern Towhee	26	29	38	8	13	42	18	60	66	–	13	2	16	13

Bernheim Forest	Louisville	Shelbyville	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Warsaw	Burlington	Falmouth	Richmond	Russell-Adair County	Somerset	Wayne County	London	Cumberland Falls	Total
30	62	8	4	20	9	18	26	4	25	7	13	10	47	16	15	18	625
3	8	–	1	1	–	4	2	1	2	1	–	3	12	4	3	2	156
25	21	3	7	6	8	8	25	6	11	18	21	25	36	16	23	14	670
11	5	1	4	7	4	1	9	1	10	2	6	12	8	9	11	27	321
15	16	18	18	8	12	47	23	10	12	17	45	51	69	47	27	4	866
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	7
–	2	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7
1	–	1	wk	–	–	1	2	–	–	1	–	8	15	8	8	4	136
–	–	1	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	21
64	102	29	34	60	22	80	91	16	98	50	69	107	198	57	108	29	2900
212	171	73	98	177	141	95	192	65	85	66	73	200	412	274	428	144	5190
70	wk	5	–	–	–	2	2	–	20	–	1	–	8	1	–	–	2178
110	205	25	20	93	27	44	114	4	81	28	36	55	116	61	68	67	1949
140	121	13	16	59	6	47	43	5	57	29	16	73	85	38	83	54	1834
2	–	–	–	1	–	2	1	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	1	1	21
50	35	9	3	20	11	8	12	–	34	11	3	26	33	21	23	27	608
1	22	–	1	4	3	2	2	1	3	1	1	–	2	3	–	–	89
2	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	4	5	2	1	78
–	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	2	–	–	9
1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
47	75	7	16	47	13	58	56	12	43	32	28	57	118	68	62	38	1563
29	70	13	10	13	9	5	70	2	27	18	28	19	33	25	11	28	744
1	6	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	3	3	5	3	4	–	68
116	38	12	17	12	34	119	91	5	39	41	27	175	191	116	122	48	2476
6	3	–	5	–	2	–	2	1	–	–	–	10	5	12	4	16	147
520	2325	39	118	200	27	569	1243	58	329	76	215	1861	346	130	265	1544	14436
68	54	19	10	26	9	107	53	14	22	19	45	66	167	32	93	12	1446
–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	1	–	1	59
1595	5693	1466	740	1402	420	4000	4679	312	1087	245	2955	2303	5685	4638	3036	426	73091
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	25	–	–	753
1	93	2	2	–	–	6	24	–	7	–	–	27	16	17	40	95	655
–	wk	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	331
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	2	1	–	–	52
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5
103	33	1	23	24	48	2	21	17	21	24	15	146	124	53	32	19	1390
39	7	2	–	6	1	2	4	7	11	10	11	30	49	21	9	11	564

2013–2014 Christmas Bird Count	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	South Logan County	Paradise	Bowling Green	Western Allen County	Eastern Allen County	Mammoth Cave Nat'l Park	Hart County	Nolin River	Hodgenville	Otter Creek Park
Amer. Tree Sparrow	23	2	12	7	–	15	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	3
Chipping Sparrow	–	–	3	18	–	3	1	14	5	–	–	–	–	–
Field Sparrow	31	11	24	7	6	15	58	169	197	2	56	2	68	20
Savannah Sparrow	18	4	4	2	38	3	3	89	76	–	–	7	2	1
Le Conte's Sparrow	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Fox Sparrow	6	–	10	6	–	29	4	61	41	–	5	wk	3	–
Song Sparrow	50	27	72	25	65	127	96	585	509	4	143	22	132	50
Swamp Sparrow	90	12	37	2	9	145	13	75	233	–	92	7	25	18
White-thr. Sparrow	133	152	267	44	32	234	128	426	619	9	200	28	41	40
White-cr. Sparrow	20	16	1	10	91	84	7	358	84	–	69	23	46	3
Dark-eyed Junco	51	266	561	86	29	140	48	207	195	39	6	118	68	55
Northern Cardinal	65	60	154	97	144	205	64	407	445	29	72	91	78	76
Indigo Bunting	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Red-wg. Blackbird	10000	28	195	92	54	5000	40	200	1048	–	2000	10	21	3
Eastern Meadowlark	43	30	30	28	49	48	85	317	483	–	39	119	103	37
Rusty Blackbird	35	1	17	25	10	6	65	90	6	–	50	–	–	–
Brewer's Blackbird	3	–	–	–	–	9	–	–	–	–	–	13	–	–
Common Grackle	25500	5	2583	2077	wk	50000	14	1151	865	–	500	1	5	1
Brown-hd. Cowbird	500	–	10	20	92	2	–	2074	2641	–	4000	–	2	–
Purple Finch	–	3	3	–	–	4	–	6	–	–	–	–	1	–
House Finch	2	14	19	17	8	–	46	18	13	–	12	1	30	5
Pine Siskin	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
American Goldfinch	11	24	109	24	36	89	64	276	359	61	76	116	82	43
House Sparrow	80	70	24	190	36	4	56	149	170	–	35	25	90	12
Day of Count	D17	D27	D14	J1	D14	D29	D16	D14	D28	D15	D19	J4	D28	D19
Number of Species	85	87	98	71	58	90	79	82	88	36	66	62	76	70
No. of Individuals	47558	5903	18442	9232	3744	59795	8346	17828	22138	781	10936	4043	3230	7467
No. of Observers	6	7	19	18	6	8	5	36	20	2	8	10	6	6



Bernheim Forest	Louisville	Shelbyville	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Warsaw	Burlington	Falmouth	Richmond	Russell-Adair County	Somerset	Wayne County	London	Cumberland Falls	Total
22	21	14	-	3	10	1	-	2	23	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	162
-	12	5	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	24	39	11	11	5	153
63	11	14	20	-	12	6	26	1	33	26	69	61	165	35	44	27	1279
-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	12	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	268
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
11	10	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	20	-	29	-	1	-	241
102	236	48	17	63	49	59	121	23	80	36	116	121	245	68	115	32	3438
35	31	wk	-	1	6	-	6	1	8	1	7	17	52	10	12	56	1001
125	284	8	26	69	21	40	225	39	50	38	121	94	121	39	70	8	3731
68	9	23	6	73	1	34	26	27	1	12	4	25	92	35	4	141	1393
300	219	36	54	51	108	62	77	23	64	76	14	109	186	76	175	-	3499
186	299	40	42	151	54	174	171	32	74	67	53	143	380	108	167	63	4191
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
120	17	-	-	-	-	100	30	10	-	1	234	50	1	150	62	9	19475
33	27	1	6	40	-	66	13	20	24	-	25	64	98	95	49	-	1972
wk	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	30	2	-	-	30	-	18	-	-	396
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	26
1	15	-	225	-	-	57	2	-	-	-	2	-	wk	3	-	-	83007
-	4	1	-	-	-	73	-	73	21	-	-	35	300	30	122	-	10000
wk	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
32	88	3	22	26	-	71	51	10	14	2	6	1	98	18	-	19	646
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
55	179	39	71	95	88	153	87	23	72	13	27	177	126	207	60	56	2898
79	107	27	7	59	-	109	76	11	21	8	7	110	114	13	107	-	1796
J4	D15	D15	D30	D14	D28	D21	D14	D14	D28	J1	D14	D16	J1	D17	J4	D14	
72	82	61	63	52	42	65	75	58	66	56	70	80	88	84	65	59	
6033	15822	3495	5267	3973	1448	7970	10080	1792	3578	1378	5854	7927	11810	8386	6701	3536	324493
13	35	10	7	14	5	26	40	2	10	4	11	7	14	5	12	6	377

The species total (70) is about average for this count. A persistent breeze made detecting songbirds relatively difficult. Highlights included several flocks of northbound Sandhill Cranes totaling more than 500 individuals, 3 Eurasian Collared-Doves in Flaherty, and a Palm Warbler. Not included in the species total is an eagle sp. (either a sub-ad. Bald Eagle or a Golden Eagle).

**Bernheim Forest** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at Forest lookout tower, 2.75 mi. se. of Forest entrance; 37.902405°, -085.62752°). Habitat as described in 1974. Jan. 4; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Sky mostly clear; temp. 18-43°F; wind S-SW, 5-10 m.p.h. Water partly frozen.

Thirteen observers in seven parties. Total party-hours 46 (23 on foot, 23 by car). Total party-miles 177 (10 on foot, 167 by car). Total species 72; total individuals 6033.

Observers: Michael Autin, Mary Bill Bauer, Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Carol Besse, Dona Coates, Eddie Huber, Jennifer Huber, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Nancy Vance, Kelly Vowels, Barbara Woerner, and Mary Yandell.

Breezy conditions made finding songbirds somewhat difficult. The species total (72) was a bit above average for this count for recent years. Highlights of the day included a Bald Eagle, a juv. Golden Eagle, and a Marsh Wren (found by Michael Autin in a small cattail marsh near Shepherdsville). Red-breasted Nuthatches were scarce and winter finches (including Purple Finch) were missed entirely. Natural food supplies appeared to be relatively plentiful, but numbers of waxwings (only one) and robins were low.

**Louisville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Jct. Hwys 42 and 22, as described in 1972; 38.2813°, -085.63481°). Habitat: farmland, suburban, city, woods, cemeteries and the Ohio River. Dec. 15; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 30-31°F; wind N, 13 m.p.h. There were a few snowflakes in the morning.

Thirty-five observers in 15 parties. Total party-hours 73.00 (43.75 on foot, 29.25 by car). Total party miles 251.8 (29.7 on foot, 222.1 by car). Hours at feeders 3.75. Hours owling, 1.25, over 5.1 miles. Total species 82; total individuals 15,822.

Observers: Tom Ackerson, Win Ahrens, Michael Autin, Tom Becker, Pat Bedford, Sherm Bedford, Jane Bell, Pat Bell (compiler), Carol Besse, Ren Bilkey, Wanda Bilkey, Carl Bochmann, JoAnn Bochmann, Mike Callan, Dona Coates, Marge Constan, Colleen Craven-Becker, Rod Goforth, Chuck Hatten, Bob Johnson, Frank Krull, John Krull, Rob Lane, Richard Mayfield, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Peggy Renn, Michael Riggs, Tim Ritter, Tom Sklodoski, Pam Spaulding, Jack Still, Del Striegel, Nancy Vance, Major Waltman, and Barbara Woerner.

It was a cold, cloudy day for the count. The trails were muddy and icy and a cold north wind made it a rough day to count birds. The tally of 81 species was below what had been counted in previous years. Some of the highlights were Black Scoter, Sandhill Cranes, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Barred and Great Horned Owls, House and Winter Wrens, and Tree and Chipping Sparrows. Thanks to all the participants.

**Shelbyville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center three-quarters of a mile south of U.S. 60 and Guist Creek Lake on KY 714; 38.18997°, -085.14535°). Habitat: farmland, fallow land, suburban, wooded and grassland. Elevation: 640-1190 ft. Dec. 15; 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 31-31°F; wind W, 10-15 m.p.h.

Ten observers in seven parties. Total party-hours 29.00 (9.25 on foot, 19.75 by car). Total party-miles 223.5 (10.5 on foot, 213.0 by car). Total species 61; total individuals 3495.

Observers: Penny Brogdon, Horace Brown (compiler), Joan Brown, Kevin Flowers, Sam Houston, Gay Hower, Tommy Hower, Kathy King, Walt Reichart, and Benton Young.

**Green River Lake** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Green River Memorial Baptist Church, Taylor County, Ky.; 37.17541°, -085.22041°). Habitat: old fields, agricultural fields and borders, second growth forest, Green River riparian areas,

open water, including Green River Lake and Campbellsville City Lake. Dec. 30; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 28-30°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Snow flurries.

Seven observers in three parties. Total party-hours 21 (9 on foot, 12 by car). Total party-miles 101.5 (4.0 on foot, 97.5 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 5267.

Observers: Janice Bardin, Lloyd Curry (compiler), Steve Dalton, Robert Doty, Eddie Huber, Richie Kessler, and Jeff Sole.

It was a calm day with an occasional breeze. Several species normally found on the count were absent. Disappointingly, no Bald Eagles were observed. Duck species were lower than most years. Where were all the Eastern Towhees?

**Frankfort** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center jct. US 127 and KY 1900; 38.22612°, -084.85022°). Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 14; 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 34-44°F; wind S, 8-18 m.p.h. Light rain at times. Water still partly frozen.

Fourteen observers in six parties, with two feeder-watchers. Total party-hours 31.75 (16.50 on foot, 15.25 by car). Feeder watching hours 4. Total party-miles 137.5 (14.0 on foot, 123.5 by car). Total species 52; total individuals 3973.

Observers: Barb Cornett, Peggy Gould (compiler), Ralph Gould, Pat Hankla, Scott Hankla, Jeff Jones, Joel Jones, David Schindler, Tanner Shepard, Edwin Shouse, Mary Shouse, Diane Smith, Larry Smith, Gary Sprandel, Asha Vorisek, and Shawchyi Vorisek. Two were at feeders.

**Kleber Wildlife Management Area** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Hensler, Owen County, Ky.; 38.4633°, -084.7769°). Habitat: agricultural fields/pastures, river bottoms, mixed cedar/hardwood woodland. Dec. 28; 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 22-36°F; wind W, 5-15 m.p.h. It rained every hour.

Five observers in two parties. Total party-hours 12.5 (5.0 on foot, 7.5 by car). Total party-miles 51 (5 on foot, 46 by car). Total species 42; total individuals 1448.

Observers: Jeff Jones (compiler), Joel Jones, Kate Tower, Kevin Tower, and Mark Tower.

**Danville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Boyle County Courthouse; 37.64634°, -084.77345°). Habitat: water edge (15%), urban (10%), cultivated (10%), field/fence (35%), wooded edge (24%), and feeder (6%). Dec. 21; 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy in the morning, cloudy in the afternoon; temp. 60-67°F; 10-25 m.p.h.

Twenty-six observers in nine parties, with one feeder watcher. Total party-hours 45.45 (5.35 on foot, 36.60 by car, 3.50 by bicycle). Total party-miles 416.3 (3.3 on foot, 403.0 by car, 10 by bicycle). Total species 65; total individuals 7970.

Observers: Jane Brantley, J.P. Brantley (compiler), Jim Bredar, Sallie Bright, Granville Cox, Thelma Cox, Patrick Finnegan, Bill Garriott, Michael Hamm, Kate Heyden, Michael Lauer, Ben Leffew, Anne Lubbers, Gloria Maender, Jim Maender, Preston Miles, Eric Mount, Don Pelly, Rob Pandygraft, Jim Porter, Linda Porter, Jim Roessler, Rose-Marie Roessler, Patsi Tollinger, Charles Vahlkamp, and Brett Werner.

**Lexington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center East Hickman Road and Tates Creek Road; 37.9198°, -084.4693°). Habitat: suburban farms, woodlots, water company reservoirs, farm ponds, Kentucky River and cliffs, and bottomland flood plains. Dec. 14; 6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky partly clear; temp. 37-47°F; wind SE, 0-20 m.p.h. Water open.

Forty observers 31 parties. Total party-hours 66.5 (17.5 by foot, 49.0 by car). Hours feeder-watching: 3.0. Hours owling: 1.0. Total party-miles 417.5 (15.5 miles by foot, 402.0 by car). Total species 75; total individuals 10,080.

Observers: Ben Albritton, Ramish Bhatt, Susan Bhatt, Gretchen Bolton, Rose Canon, Mary Carol Cooper, John Cox, Montana Cox, Alex Demoll, Edward Demoll, Brenda

Franey, Gay Fugate, Kelly Helton, Jim Hodge, Marsha Hopkins, Kevin Hopper, Jessica Horohov, Beverly James, Betsy Lang, David Lang (compiler), Judy Lundquist, Scott Marsh, Josie Miller, David Moldoff, Ellen Molle, Mark Morgan, Tina Nauman, Jeff Noffsinger, Ronan O'Carra, Sydney Penner, Carol Picket, Lou Shain, Marie E. Sutton, Dave Svetich, Joe Swanson, Ed Talbot, Charles Tremoulet, Gretchen Tremoulet, George Weems, James Williams, Bernice Wood.

**Warsaw** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Gallatin County Courthouse; 38.78387°, -084.90227°). Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 14; 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky overcast, fog in the afternoon; temp. 33-38°F; wind W, 0-3 m.p.h. Most water open. Light to steady rain the entire day.

Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 9.5 (0 on foot, 9.5 by car). Total party-miles 127 (0 on foot, 127 by car). Total species 58; total individuals 1792.

Observers: Ed Groneman, and Lee McNeely (compiler).

Steady rain persisted throughout the day resulting in lower than average numbers and species diversity. Highlights included three Bald Eagles, a Peregrine Falcon, and 30 Rusty Blackbirds.

**Burlington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Camp Michaels; 38.94932°, -084.74625°). Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 28; 6:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.; Sky cloudy; temp. 36-48°F; wind SSW 0-8 m.p.h. Most water open.

Ten observers in six parties. Total party-hours 36 (14 on foot, 21 by car, 1 by bicycle). Total party-miles 185 (6 on foot, 166 by car, 13 by bicycle). Total species 66; total individuals 3578.

Observers: Linda Altevers, Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Elaine Carroll, Barbara Dickison, Ed Groneman, Lee McNeely (compiler), Gayle Pille, Jeff Rowe, and Tommy Stephens.

New count highs were set for American Black Duck and Savannah Sparrow. Wild Turkey was a major miss.

**Falmouth** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Caddo, Ky.; 38.74738°, -084.24473°). Habitat as described in 2011. Jan. 1; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 21-46°F; wind S, 0-6 m.p.h.

Four observers in three parties. Total party-hours 24.5 (3 on foot, 21.5 by car). Total party-miles 182 (1 on foot, 181 by car). Total species 56; total individuals 1378.

Observers: Rodney Crice, Barbara Dickison, Lee McNeely (compiler), and Tommy Stephens.

High water levels on the Ohio River contributed to low waterfowl numbers. Best finds were Eastern Phoebe and Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Raptors were well represented.

**Richmond** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center circa 0.7 air miles east of Jct US 25 and KY 1983 (White Station Road); 37.6311°, -084.2638°). Habitat: fence-rows and roadsides (20%), woodland (20%), pasture and open fields (55%), lawns (4%), lakes and ponds (1%). Dec. 14; 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 31-34°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Steady rain until about 11:30 a.m.; mostly light with occasional periods of heavier rain. There was only occasionally light rain in the afternoon.

Eleven observers in four parties. Total party-hours 19.50 (2.75 on foot, 16.75 by car). Total party-miles 208.6 (4.2 on foot, 204.4 by car). 4.25 hours feeder watching. Total species 70; total individuals 5854.

Observers: Rebecca Bates, David Brown, Alexi Dart-Padover, Rob Foster, Paul Hager, Drew Harvey, Justin Michaud, Brianna Ritchison, Gary Ritchison (compiler), Tammy Ritchison, and Katheryn Watson.

**Russell-Adair County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center intersection of Owensby Road and Hwy. 3281; 36.965833°, -085.12167°). Habitat: mixed and decid-



uous woodland, pasture fields, streams and lake, mostly rural with a small percentage of urban. Elevation ranges 530-1140 ft. Dec. 16; 5:30 a.m. to 4:35 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly clear; temp. 32-51°F; wind SW, 5-15 m.p.h.

Seven observers in four parties. Total part-hours 38.0 (6.5 on foot, 31.5 by car). Feeder watching for 0.25 hours. Total party-miles 258 (4 on foot, 254 by car). Total species 80; total individuals 7927.

Observers: Wendy Burt, Terry Campell, Granville Cox, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, Arlene Morton, and Stephen J. Stedman.

**Somerset** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center junction of Bypass Hwy. 80 and Hwy. 39; 37.10245°, -084.60376°). Habitat as described in 2000. Jan. 1; 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 22-49°F; wind SW, 0-10 m.p.h.

Fourteen observers in seven parties. Total party-hours 57.50 (8.75 by foot, 48.75 by car). Total party-miles 460.5 (5.0 on foot, 455.5 by car). Hours feeder watching was 24. Total species 88; total individuals 11,869.

Observers: Judy Brant, Jean Brickell, Rhonda Bryant, Granville Cox, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, Gay Hodges, James Kiser, Scott Marsh, Linda McClendon, Lynda Mills, Tom Mills, Arlene Morton, and Stephen Stedman. There were nine feeder watchers.

**Wayne County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Junction Hwy. 1275 and 3106; 36.8972°, -084.8215°). Habitat as described in 2004. Dec. 17; 6:25 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy; temp. 43-53°F; wind variable, 0-20 m.p.h.

Five observers in four parties. Total party-hours 35.5 (6.5 on foot, 29.0 by car). Total party-miles 271.5 (2.0 on foot, 269.5 by car). Total species 84; total individuals 8386.

Observers: Roseanna Denton (compiler), Gay Hodges, Bret Kuss, Arlene Morton, and Stephen Stedman.

Highlights of the count were Greater White-fronted Goose in two locations, Greater Scaup, Loggerhead Shrike, House Wren in two locations, American Pipit, Palm Warbler, and Brewer's Blackbird (a count first). Also reported was a Mallard x American Black Duck hybrid.

**London** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Route 3432 and US 25; 37.13544°, -084.09445°). Habitat: 50% pasture, hayfields; 45% forested; 1% cultivated; 1% lakes, ponds streams; 2% fencerows, residential yards; 1% roads. Jan. 4, 6:30 a.m. to 5:40 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 13-46°F; wind SW, 5-15 m.p.h. Moderate to light rain until mid morning, intermittent rain changing to flurries late.

Twelve observers in five parties. Total party-hours 48.00 (5.25 on foot, 42.75 by car). Total party-miles 358.0 (2.5 on foot, 355.5 by car). Total species 65, total individuals 6701.

Observers: Winona Allen, Granville Cox (compiler), Thelma Cox, Roseanna Denton, Steve Denton, Abigail Dixon, Gay Hodges, Bret Kuss, Charline Marriman, Alaine Oakley, Marie Oakley, and Tucker Oakley.

**Cumberland Falls** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center upper Bark Camp Creek; 36.8900°, -084.2611°). Habitat: mostly forested (about 70% upland oak and pine, mixed forest, and hemlock forest), about 20% in small rural home lots, small farm holdings, and minimal residential and urban areas. One moderately large reservoir (Laurel River Lake) and about 17 miles of Cumberland River/Lake Cumberland and its riparian forest. Dec. 14; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky overcast; temp 38-48°F; wind SW, 0-20 m.p.h. Rain and drizzle off and on.

Six observers in four parties. Total party-hours 33.25 (9.00 on foot, 24.25 by car). Total party-miles 264 (3 on foot, 261 by car.) Total species 59; total individuals 3536.

Observers: Sara Ash, Granville Cox, Thelma Cox, Roseanna Denton, Bret Kuss (compiler), and Renee Yetter.

## BOOK REVIEW

***Rare Birds of North America* (2014) by Steve N.G. Howell, Ian Lewington, and Will Russell. 428 pp. Princeton University Press.**

This long overdue, useful, and wonderfully done book fills the void of comprehensive coverage of the rarest of the rare vagrant birds of North America (262 species) that are barely mentioned or not covered at all in most field guides.

These rarities are basically defined for inclusion in this book as species that have occurred somewhere in the United States and Canada up to five times between 1950 and mid-2012, but some more frequently occurring species are covered, too. In recent years Kentucky has seen its share of the species covered in the book such as Little Stint, Long-billed Murrelet, and Green Violetear, and the accounts will whet your appetite for additional species that will surely be discovered in the state someday by diligent birders.

The introductory sections provide an overview of the current understanding of the mechanisms and patterns of vagrancy, along with excellent maps, historical context, informative tables, and a superbly illustrated section on topography, molt, and aging. The main species accounts summarize (with generous citations) the taxonomy, status and distribution, seasonal timing, additional interesting comments, and, of course, the field identification of each bird.

Ian Lewington's artwork is a joy to look at, and its very high level of accuracy is beautifully natural in appearance. Indeed, the illustrations are the most accurate ever done for many of these species, the shorebirds being a particular standout in this regard. Have our small *Calidris* peep/stint species ever been portrayed so well? The presence of little known plumage subtleties are also accurately depicted on birds, such as the grayish tail of a Black Noddy and the greenish-blue iridescence on the back of the Jacksnipe, even though these pertinent field marks are not even mentioned in the text.

It should be noted that a few mistakes were detected. For example, Kentuckians will see that the map on page 17 shows a Brambling record for the state, a species for which there are no records. The labeling of individual birds on some of the plates is a bit confusing; the distinction between those that are the primary species and those that represent similar species is not always evident (e.g. Long-billed Murrelet, page 73). Among the illustrations I think the bills of the Hawfinches on page 342 look a bit small, and some of the colored plate printing is a little dull, such as the Yellow Grosbeaks on page 396.

Although not a field guide sized book (it is the same size as the big *Sibley Guide*, but a little thinner), it is sure to be the classic go-to reference for a long time to come, as well as just a great bird book to learn from and dream with. I highly recommend it.

— Alan Barron, 1125 Oregon Street, Apt. # 20, Crescent City, CA 95531.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

***The Kentucky Warbler Available in PDF Format***

Members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society who wish to receive their quarterly journal, *The Kentucky Warbler*, in electronic format rather than hard copy through the mail may now do so. In the new and here-to-stay digital age, we have found that some members prefer to have a searchable electronic format. The board of the Kentucky Ornithological Society has discussed the eventual scanning of all back issues of *The Kentucky Warbler* to PDF format and making them available on the internet, but that project may be a few years away. If you wish to receive future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler* in digital PDF format, email the Society's Corresponding Secretary, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., at the following address: [brainard@mindspring.com](mailto:brainard@mindspring.com).

### **K.O.S. Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available**

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 by the Kentucky Ornithological Society to honor the memory of Virginia “Ginny” Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to KOS and to environmental educational efforts across Kentucky.

The Fund will be used sponsor a young birder from Kentucky to attend an American Birding Association Summer Camp. In 2014, Camp Colorado runs from July 8 to 14 in Estes Park, Colorado, and Camp Avocet runs from August 10 to 16 in Lewes, Delaware. The camps include a week filled with opportunities for young birders to take their birding skills to the next level, meet others with similar interests, and explore careers in birding and ornithology. Details about the camps, as well as reports and video of past camps, can be found on the ABA website ([aba.org](http://aba.org)) under Young Birder Events.

The scholarship is available to a young birder between the ages of 13 and 18 who lives in Kentucky. Scholarships will cover lodging, meals, and transportation to and from the airport, camp events and instructional sessions. Campers will be responsible for transportation from Kentucky to the camp of their choice.

To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the KOS web site (<http://biology.eku.edu/kos/Kingsolver.htm>), write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to participate, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to KOS at a meeting, or in writing. The deadline to apply for a 2014 Kingsolver Scholarship is May 15, 2014.

### **Visit the K.O.S. Website**

To learn about the Kentucky Ornithological Society, visit the KOS website maintained by Dr. Gary Ritchison at <http://www.biology.eku.edu/kos/default.htm>.

### **K.O.S. Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available**

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to \$500, please contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at ([scott.marsh@insightbb.com](mailto:scott.marsh@insightbb.com)).

### **K.O.S. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Avian Research Grants Available**

The Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Avian Research Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky with monetary awards of up to \$1000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the K.O.S. web site (<http://www.biology.eku.edu/kos/monroe.htm>) or contact Kathryn Heyden, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman’s Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 ([kathryn.heyden@ky.gov](mailto:kathryn.heyden@ky.gov)).

### **Kentucky Bird Records Committee**

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) is charged with determining the validity of records of rare and out-of-season birds in Kentucky. Sightings of such birds should be documented with information supporting the identification promptly submitted to the KBRC. Photographic evidence is desirable but not essential. Electronic documentation is preferred and should be submitted to KBRC Secretary, Ben Yandell, via e-mail at [secy@kybirdrecords.org](mailto:secy@kybirdrecords.org). Hard copy documentation can be mailed to Ben Yandell, KBRC Secretary, 513 Lymington Ct., Louisville, KY 40243.





Common Tern, Hardin Co.  
8 November 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Great Blue Heron (white morph)  
Freeman Lake, 23 October 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



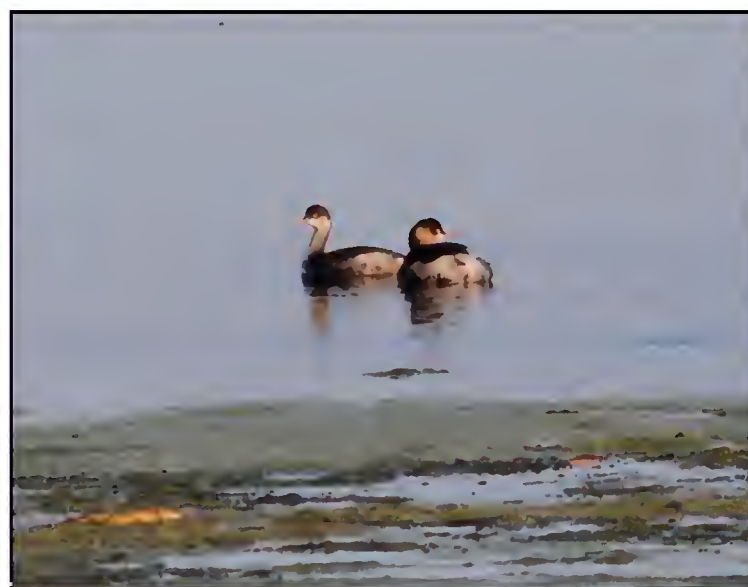
Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, Webster Co.  
7 August 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Wilson's Phalarope, Rowan Co.  
1 September 2013  
Brian Wulker



Grasshopper Sparrow (juv.), Henderson Co.  
7 September 2013  
Charlie Crawford



Eared Grebes, Union Co.  
9 October 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

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## THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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## THE COVER

We thank Allan Claybon for the image of the adult male White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) taken 14 January 2014 on the Ohio River at Covington, Kenton County, part of an unprecedented showing of the species during the late winter 2013-2014 (see p. 46). Financial support for color reproduction in this issue provided by the Daniel Boone National Forest.



## WINTER 2013-2014 SEASON

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

Climatic conditions during winter 2013-2014 definitely affected the avifauna in a significant way! Precipitation and temperature were normal to slightly above normal statewide during December, but during the first week of January, a shift in the “North Polar Vortex” ushered in extremely cold air that resulted in temperatures across the region that were lower than had been experienced in at least a decade. The colder-than-normal temperatures persisted well into February, resulting in mean average monthly temperatures of 4-7°F below normal at most recording stations. Precipitation during January was below normal at most stations, so although not much snow fell during the period, what did accumulate persisted on the ground for several weeks. February precipitation returned to above-normal across central Kentucky, resulting in a relatively brief appearance of the transient lakes from Warren County west to Trigg County. The persistence of cold and snow/ice cover apparently resulted in mortality of some birds, particularly Eastern Bluebirds.

Rarity highlights included Cinnamon Teal, Red-necked Grebe, Pomarine Jaeger, multiple Iceland and Great Black-backed Gulls, Snowy Owl, several continuing Rufous Hummingbirds, Prairie Falcon, and Yellow-headed Blackbird. The period of extremely cold weather resulted in the disappearance of all of the hummingbirds that were still present. However, it also was responsible for the appearance of Snow Buntings at several locales, as well as an unprecedented mid-winter flight of waterbirds off the Great Lakes that included White-winged Scoters and Long-tailed Ducks, as well as several interesting Larids. This flight continued into March and also will be reported on in the spring 2014 summary.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

**Abbreviations** – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ba” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the bird was banded; “ph.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vr.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with recordings of call notes; “†” next to an observer’s initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report; **Place names:** Ballard WMA, Ballard; Barkley Dam, Lyon (unless otherwise noted); Barren River Lake, Allen/Barren (unless otherwise noted); Blood River = Blood River embayment, Ky Lake, Calloway; Calvert City, Marshall; Cave Run Lake, Bath/Rowan; Cecilia, Hardin; Cedar Creek Lake, Lincoln; Chamberlain Lane, ne. Jefferson; CVG = Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky airport, Boone; Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson; Freeman Lake, Hardin; Gibraltar = former Gibraltar Mine, e. Muhlenberg; Green River Lake, Adair/Taylor (unless otherwise noted); Jacobson Park, Fayette; Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment, Ky Lake, Marshall; Ken Unit, Peabody WMA, Ohio; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, Livingston/Marshall; Kentucky Dam Village SRP, Marshall; KDFWR = Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources; Ky Lake = Kentucky Lake, Calloway/Marshall/Trigg; Lake Linville, Rockcastle; Lake Peewee, Hopkins; Lake Reba, Madison; LBL = Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, Lyon/Trigg; Lexington, Fayette; Long Point = Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR, Fulton; Lower Hickman Bottoms, w. Fulton; Markland Dam, on the Ohio River, Gallatin; McElroy Lake, s. Warren; Meldahl Dam, on the Ohio River, Bracken; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan; mouth of the Licking River, Campbell/Kenton; NWR = National

Wildlife Refuge; Owsley Fork Lake, Madison; Pond Creek Bottoms, n. of KY 85 ne. of Anton, e. Hopkins; Reformatory Lake, nr. Buckner, Oldham; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson; Sinclair Unit, Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg; Sledd Creek = Sledd Creek embayment of Ky Lake, Marshall; Spindletop Farm = University of Kentucky Spindletop Farm, Fayette; SNP = State Nature Preserve; SP = State Park; SRP = State Resort Park; Sugar Creek, Gallatin, Waitsboro = Waitsboro Recreation Area, Lake Cumberland, Pulaski; West Ky WMA, McCracken; WMA = Wildlife Management Area; Wolf Creek Dam, Lake Cumberland, Russell.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** – reports of interest (including local peak counts) included 2 at Conley Bottom Resort, Lake Cumberland, Wayne, 17 December (RD); 2500 at Sauerheber 20 December (CC) with a peak count of 5000 there during the third week of December (CP); 36 at the Reformatory Lake 8 January (ph. MY et al.) with 51 there 10 January (JSo, CS, et al.); 1 on the Licking River at Butler, Pendleton, 10 January (BD); 15 over Shaker Village, Mercer, 11 January (SP); 13 on Barren River Lake 4 February (BP, MY); 13 se. of Cedar Springs, Allen, 4 February (BP, MY); 2 at Osprey Cove Lake, Shelby, 23/27 January (KRi); 1 at the mouth of the Licking River 25 January (TC); 19 at Cave Run Lake 26 January–1 February (ph. BWu) with up to 30 there 20–21 February (ph. BWu) and 22 last seen there 23 February (BWu); 1 near Boston, Nelson, 29 January (EHu); up to 4 at Spindletop Farm during the first two weeks of February (ph. DL et al.) with 1 last seen there 19 February (MWrr); 3 at Lake Linville 13–16 February (ph. RD, MD); 10 at Parsons Pond, Logan, 15 February (ph. FL); and 1 at Guthrie Swamp, Todd, 24 February (FL).

**Snow Goose** – modest peak counts included a high count of 8000 at Sauerheber during the second week of December (CP) with ca. 2000 over Sauerheber 25 December (JM); and ca. 5000 at Long Point 27–28 December (SRo, MRi) and 19 January (SZ).

**Ross's Goose** – reports of interest included at least 3 n. of Needmore, Ballard, 17 December (BP, EHu, RCr); 1 at Gibraltar 29 December (ph. BP); 1 at the KDFWR headquarters, Franklin, 29–30 December (GSp); 1 at the Reformatory Lake 8/10 January (BP et al.); 1 at Calvert City 12

January (BP, CS, JSo); 2 at Spindletop Farm 7–20 February (ph. CF et al.); 1 at Lake Reba 17 February (JSo); 1 at Freeman Lake 7 February (SK, JKi); 1 at McElroy Lake 9–10 February (TD) with an impressive tally of 13 there 21 February (TD); 1 on the Ohio River above Meldahl Dam 14 February (SFi); 1 at Vernon Bottoms, Monroe, 15 February (MB, JBy); and 2 near Hundred Acre Pond, Hart, 19 February (JSo).

**Cackling Goose** – reports of interest included 5 at Sledd Creek 12/14 December (BP/HC, ME); at least 6 on the Reformatory Lake 4 January (BWo) with 10–12 there 8 January (BP et al.) and a peak count of at least 28 there 9 February (BP, MaS); 1 s. of Petersburg, Boone, 9 January (BP, EHu); 15 at Spindletop Farm 26 January (ph. CF) with 1–8 there to 16 February (m. ob.); and 4 at Lake Linville 11 February (JSo, CM) with 6 there 13/15 February (ph. RD).

**Canada Goose** – local peak counts of interest included 4000 at Lexington Reservoir #4 on 31 January (RO) and 3000 at Spindletop Farm 4 February (DL).

**Mute Swan** – small numbers showed up on a number of bodies of water during mid-to late January; reports of interest included 12 on the Ohio River above Meldahl Dam 2 February (JF) with 13 in the same area 12 February (BP); a total of 22 (most in KY waters) along the Ohio River within the first few miles upstream of Markland Dam 10 February (BP); 6 at Vernon Bottoms, Monroe, 15 February (MB, JBy); and 3 on Taylorsville Lake, Anderson, 17 February (BWo).

**Tundra Swan** – numbers were not as high at Sauerheber this winter, likely due to the frigid weather; ca. 75 were present there

during December with a peak count of 115 during the first week of January (CP), with 8 still at Sauerheber and ca. 30 on the sloughs along Horseshoe Road, w. *Henderson*, both 22 February (SG, TG); other reports of interest included 2 on Cave Run Lake 3 December (BWu) with 12 overhead there 7 December (BWu); 17 on Lake Cumberland at Mystic View Road, *Wayne*, 8 December (ph. RD); up to 6 at Stephensburg, *Hardin*, during December (CL, ph. BP, et al.) with 5 last seen there 31 December (JSo); 3 on Walton's Pond, s. *Warren*, 15-30 December (TD); 3 at the Sinclair Unit 29 December (SG, TG, BP); 5 in the Pond River Bottoms 11 January (MY, BY, et al.); 1 on Lake Reba 9 February (ph. CF); and 5 on the Ohio River at Warsaw, *Gallatin*, 10 February (ph. BP) with surely the same 5 at the mouth of Craig's Creek, *Gallatin*, 17 February (LM).

**American Wigeon** – at least 120 at Sauerheber 20 December (BP) represented a modest peak count for the season.

**American Black Duck** – an aerial survey of 1480 total across the ne. part of the state 7 January (JBr) and ca. 200 on Cave Run Lake 1 February (BWu) represented the season's peak counts.

**Cinnamon Teal** – a male was on McElroy Lake 12-15 February (†TD, ph. BF, et al.). KBRC review required.

**Mallard x Northern Pintail** – a male was present near Blue Pond, w. *Fulton*, 8 February (†BWu, BP).

**Northern Pintail** – local peak counts included 60 at Sauerheber 20 January (KMi); ca. 175 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 8 February (BWu, BP); 24 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, and 66 on Barren River Lake, both 15 February (BP, MA); and 55 on McElroy Lake 23 February (BP et al.).

**Green-winged Teal** – local peak counts of interest included 85 on Cave Run Lake 7 December (BWu) and 86 on Lentz Pond along River Road, *Jefferson*, 24 February (BP).

**Canvasback** – local peak counts of interest included 105 on the Ohio River above Uniontown Dam, *Union*, 10 January (CC); at least 110 on the Ohio River at Louisville (BP, EHu) and 122 on Cave Run Lake (BWu), both 26 January; at least 400 total in scattered flocks from just upstream of Markland Dam to just upstream from the mouth of Sugar Creek 10 February (BP); 350-400 on the Ohio River from upstream of Meldahl Dam to upstream of Augusta, *Bracken*, 12 February (BP); and 70 on McElroy Lake 23 February (BP et al.).

**Redhead** – local peak counts included 140 at Waitsboro 8 December (RD); a remarkable total of at least 900 in a mixed flock of 3000+ waterfowl above Wolf Creek Dam 9 December (RD, SD); at least 60 on the Ohio River at Louisville 26 January (BP); 100 on Owsley Fork Lake 2 February (RF, RB) with 200 there 28 February (RF, RB); 100+ on the Ohio River upstream from Markland Dam 10 February (BP); 150 on Lake Linville 11 February (JSo, CM) with 200 there 13 February (RD); 75-100 on the Ohio River from upstream of Meldahl Dam to upstream of Augusta, *Bracken*, 12 February (BP); 50 at Spindletop Farm 15 February (DL) with 76 there 17 February (JSo); 300 on Barren River Lake 16 February (SK et al.) with 350 there 28 February (MB, JBy); 200 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 18 February (RD); 75 on Osprey Cove Lake, *Shelby*, 21/27 February (AM); and 165 on McElroy Lake and 185 on Walton Pond, *Warren*, both 23 February (BP et al.).

**Ring-necked Duck** – local peak counts included 150 at Spindletop Farm 3 January (JSo) with 110 there 14 February (JSo); 150 on Owsley Fork Lake 2 February (RF, RB); and 80 on Lake Linville 11 February (JSo, CM).

**Greater Scaup** – numbers increased dramatically during mid-January with at least 100 on the Ohio River at Louisville by 3 February (BP), and more than 100 lingered there through the month with peak counts of at least 255 there 11 February



(BP et al.) and 270 there 14 February (BP et al.); other reports of interest included at least 125 from just upstream of Markland Dam to just upstream from the mouth of Sugar Creek 10 February (BP); and at least 250-300 on the Ohio River from upstream of Meldahl Dam to the mouth of Straight Creek, OH, *Bracken*, 12 February (BP) with 191 still in the same area the following day (BWu).

**Lesser Scaup** – peak counts included 130 at Waitsboro 8 December (RD) and at least 500 above Wolf Creek Dam 9 December (RD, SD); the species actually became difficult to find on the Ohio River during February (m. ob.).

**Surf Scoter** – there were at least nine reports: 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 7 December (DS, BP et al.); 3 above Wolf Creek Dam and 1 on Lake Cumberland at Rowena Road, *Russell*, both 9 December (RD, SD); 1 at the mouth of the Licking River 11-18 January (BZ, et al.); 1 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 11 January (ph. RD); a pair on the Ohio River at Louisville 26 January (BP et al.); an ad. male with one of the larger flocks of White-wingeds on the Ohio River at Louisville 9 February into March (BP, BWu, et al.); 3 on Freeman Lake, *Hardin*, 11 February (RH); and an ad. male on the Ohio River opposite Rabbit Hash, *Boone*, 16 February (JSt).

**White-winged Scoter** – a few birds were found during early winter, but an unprecedented flight commenced during the third week of January and continued into February. The larger groups smashed previous record high counts for the state, and also provide credence for a January 1971 report of 40 on the Ohio River, *Bracken*, that has heretofore been regarded as not sufficiently documented. On the Ohio River at Louisville 3 were present 8 January (DS, ph. BP, et al.) with 1 continuing to 24 January (m. ob.) when another 7 were first noted just upstream from downtown (SW, MK); numbers soon increased with 14 total present 26 January (BP, EHu, et al.), 50 there by 30 January (BP, DS, EHu, et al.) and 56 there by 31 January

(BP), but 116 counted in several flocks 9 February (BP, BWu) and peak counts of 145 counted in several flocks 11 February (BP et al.) and 158 counted in several flocks 14 February (BP et al.); numbers began to diminish thereafter, but some were still present into March (m. ob.). A summary of all additional reports follows: 5 on Cave Run Lake 7 December (ph. BWu) with 1 there 27 December (BWu, BP, EHu, MRu); 1 on Clifty Pond, *Pulaski*, 9 December (ph. RD, SD); 2 at the mouth of the Licking River 11-20 January (BZ, ph. BWu, et al.) with 10 in that vicinity 27 January (JE); 2 on the Ohio River at Dayton, *Campbell*, 12 January (JF) with 1 there 29 January (FR), 3 there 14 February (BWu, BH), 39 there 15 February (BWu), and 38 there 18 February (FR); 2 on the Ohio River at Catlettsburg, *Boyd*, 31 January (CT) with 3 there 14 February (CT); 2 below Carr Creek Dam, *Knott*, 1-4 February (BGo); 4 on Lake Peewee 7 February (BP, BWu); 2 above Wolf Creek Dam 9 February (ph. RD); 56 total in three flocks from just upstream of Markland Dam to upstream of the mouth of Sugar Creek 10 February (BP) with 11 still on the Ohio River at Craig's Creek, *Gallatin*, 17 February (LM); 1 found dead near the Sinclair Unit 10 February (EWS); 1 on Lake Linville 11 February (JSo, CM) with a peak count of 5 there 13 February (RD) and 2 still there 17 February (JSo, CS); 13 on the Ohio River upstream from Rabbit Hash, *Boone*, 11 February (IH) with 17 there 13 February (ph. RCr) and 18 there 15-17 February (LM, ph. RCr); 3 on the Ohio River at Chilo Park, OH, *Bracken*, 27 January/16 February (KRo/EB) with 7 there 17 February (SC); 27 total, mostly in small groups with other diving ducks [largest flock being 12], on the Ohio River from above Meldahl Dam to upstream of Augusta, *Bracken*, 12 February (BP); 52 total (flocks of 7/20/25) on the Ohio River, *Boone/Gallatin*, 16 February (JSt); at least 12 on the Ohio River downstream of Higginsport, OH, *Bracken*, 23 February (DoM, KMa); and 3 on Barren River Lake 28 February (MB, JBy).

**Black Scoter** – there were four reports: a female/imm. continued on the Ohio River at Louisville from November to 26 January (m. ob.); also reported were 2 additional birds on the Ohio River at Louisville and 1 on the Ohio River above Markland Dam, both 7 December (BP); and 2 on Ky Lake off Sherwood Shores, *Marshall*, 30 December (BP).

**Long-tailed Duck** – a few were noted early in the season, but a pronounced flight commenced during the second week of February (a couple of weeks after the White-winged Scoters showed up). A summary of all reports follows: 1 continuing on Lake Linville from November with 2 there 1-2 December and 1 lingering there to 10 December (ph. NH, RD) and 2 there again 13 February (RD) with 1 lingering there to 17 February (m. ob.); 1 on Lake Barkley, *Lyon*, 3 December (WD, *fide* KK); 3 above Wolf Creek Dam 9 December (ph. RD, SD); an ad. male on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 12-31 December (BP, HC, ME); 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 26 January (EHu et al.) with 2 imms. there 30 January–12 February (m. ob.) with an ad. male joining them 12 February (DS et al.), but 9 there 24 February (ph. EHu et al.) and 7 there 25 February (DS et al.); 1 on the Ohio River at Catlettsburg, *Boyd*, 2 February (VS); an ad. male at the KDFWR headquarters, *Franklin*, 5-6 February (GSp, ph. DB); 1 at the mouth of the Licking River 11-15 February (EB et al.); 2 on the Ohio River upstream from Meldahl Dam, 2 ad. males on the Ohio River downstream from the mouth of Bullskin Creek, OH, *Bracken*, 4 on the Ohio River just downstream from Augusta, *Bracken*, and 6 on the Ohio River below Ripley, OH, *Mason*, all 12 February (BP); 6 still on the Ohio River below Ripley, OH, *Mason*, 13 February (BWu); 1 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 16/17 February (WB/TD); 1 on the Ohio River at Chilo Park, OH, *Bracken*, 17 February (TC et al.); 5 on the Ohio River at Augusta, *Bracken*, 18 February (BD); and 2 on Owsley Fork Lake 28 February (RF, RB).

**Bufflehead** – local peak counts included 98 total on the Ohio River at Louisville 7

December (BP); 143 at Waitsboro and 50 on Lake Cumberland at Conley Bottom Resort, *Wayne*, both 8 December (RD); 100 above Wolf Creek Dam 9 December (RD, SD); and 142 total on Ky Lake, *Calloway*, 27 December (HC).

**Common Goldeneye** – local peak counts included 283 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 14 December (HC, ME); 87 on the Ohio River at Louisville 14 February (BP et al.); 40 on Lake Linville 15 February (RD); and 150-200 total on the Ohio River from Meldahl Dam upstream to the mouth of Straight Creek, OH, *Bracken*, 12 February (BP).

**Hooded Merganser** – local peak counts included 160 at Jacobson Park 1/9 December (RO) with 150 nearby on Lexington Reservoir #4 on 31 January (RO); 135 on a gravel pit s. of Petersburg, *Boone*, 15 December (JKa); and 150 on Lake Pee-wee 17 December (CC) with 265 there 7 February (BP, BWu).

**Common Merganser** – there was an average presence early in the season, but a significant number arrived during early February, especially on the Ohio River upstream from Cincinnati, OH. Local peak counts included 15 on Honker Bay, LBL, *Lyon*, 19 December (HC, ME); 3-4 on Lake Pee-wee 30 December (BP)–7 February (BP, BWu); 21 on Cave Run Lake 1 February (BWu); 36 on Barren River Lake nw. of The Narrows boat dock, *Barren*, 4 February (BP, MY); 12 on the Reformatory Lake 13 February (MC); 450-500 total, mostly at and near the mouths of creeks, on the Ohio River from Meldahl Dam upstream to the mouth of Straight Creek, OH, *Bracken*, 12 February (BP); 5 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 15 December (JSo) with 29 there 15 February (BP, MA, JSo, CS) and 21 on the lake at Corbin Bend, *Adair/Taylor*, 18 February (RD); 8 on Lake Linville 13 February (RD) with 27 there 17 February (JSo, CS); 8 on Lexington Reservoir #3 on 15 February (MT); 15 on Owsley Fork Lake 17 February (JSo, CS); 7 on McElroy Lake 17 February (TD); and 3 on Freeman Lake 22 February (m. ob.).

**Red-breasted Merganser** – as is the norm, peak numbers of fall migrants passed through during December, but a second flight occurred during February. A summary of highlights follows: 100 total on Green River Lake, *Adair*, 7 December (RD); 150 at Waitsboro and 75 on Lake Cumberland, *Wayne* (RD), and 325 on Cave Run Lake (BWu), all 8 December; 800 above Wolf Creek Dam, with additional flocks of up to 53 on other portions of Lake Cumberland, *Russell/Wayne*, 9 December (RD, SD); 22 above Wolf Creek Dam 9 February (RD); 50+ on the Ohio River from Meldahl Dam upstream to the mouth of Straight Creek, OH, *Bracken*, 12 February (BP); 20 on Lake Linville 13 February with 27 there 15 February (RD et al.); ca. 20 on Lexington Reservoir #3 on 15 February (MT); 37 on Green River Lake at Corbin Bend, *Adair/Taylor*, 18 February (RD) with 50 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 22 February (BD); 35 on Cave Run Lake 20 February (BWu); and 16 on Lexington Reservoir #4 on 22 February (RO, ASK).

**Common Loon** – local peak counts included 82 on Cave Run Lake 8 December (BWu) and 53 total on Lake Cumberland, *Russell/Wayne*, 9 December (RD, SD).

**Pied-billed Grebe** – local peak counts included 112 on Lake Peewee 30 December (BP); 223 on Green River Lake 31 December (JSo, EHu) with up to 125 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, during mid-February (RD, MA, et al.); and 40 on Lake Reba 4 January (CF).

**Horned Grebe** – local peak counts included 68 at Waitsboro 8 December (RD); 145 total on Lake Cumberland, *Wayne/Russell*, 9 December (RD, SD); 254 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 14 December (HC, ME); ca. 75 on Cave Run Lake 27 December (BP, EHu, BWu, MRu); 189 on Green River Lake 31 December (JSo, EHu); and at least 250 on the Ohio River at Louisville 9 January (JSo, CS).

**Red-necked Grebe** – there were two reports: 1 continuing from November on Cave Run Lake 3 December (BWu) and 5

on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 22 February (†DH).

**American White Pelican** – small numbers lingered on Lake Barkley and Ky Lake through the winter despite the cold weather; also reported was 1 at Long Point 27 December (MRi, SRO) with 2 there 31 January (HC, ME).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** – up to 4 wintered again near the mouth of the Little Sandy River, *Greenup* (CT, VS), and at least 1 wintered again at Draut Park, Louisville (BWo).

**Northern Harrier** – at least 22 in the Pond River Bottoms 14 December (BP) represented the peak count for the season.

**Bald Eagle** – a new nest was reported at Cedar Creek Lake (TNa).

**Rough-legged Hawk** – there were reports from at least eight locales: 1-2 at CVG 1 December–28 February (JSt, ph. RCr, KH, et al.); 1 at the East Volunteer Mine, *Hopkins*, 11/12 December (BP/RD); 1 along I-24, s. *Christian*, 11 December (BL); 2 in the Pond Creek Bottoms 12 December (MY et al.); 1 on the Lexington CBC 14 December (*fide* DL); 1 n. of Oscar, *Ballard*, 24 December (BP, EHu); at least 2 on and adjacent to the Ken Unit 29 December (EHu, MSt) through most of January (MRi, SRO, et al.); 1 along I-64, *Woodford*, 3 January (JSo); 1 near Rabbit Hash, *Boone*, 4 January (LM); and 1 at the Sinclair Unit 9 February (ph. TG).

**Golden Eagle** – there were ten reports: a juv. along Pointer Creek Road, *Pulaski*, 4 December (RD, SD); 1 first observed at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt/Nelson*, 10 December (KV) with a remarkable tally of possibly up to 9 different individuals through the season as identified on trail cam photos (KV); a juv. at Ballard WMA 17 December (ph. RCr et al.); an ad. or sub. ad. in the Pond Creek Bottoms 19 December/11 January (†RD/MY, BY); an ad. se of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 24 December (MB); a juv. at Gibraltar 29 December (BP); a sub-ad. se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 20 January (MB); and a juv. over Minor Clark 19 February (BWu). Also, two birds

affixed with radio transmitters that are being monitored by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency were tracked to various sites in Kentucky as follows: 1) nw. of Wesleyville, *Carter*, 25 December (SSo), and 2) to s. of Mt. Pisgah, extreme se. *Wayne*, 20 December (SSo), to Green River Lake 25-26 December, to Ft. Knox, *Hardin*, 27-29 December; and to the vicinity of Round Knob, extreme s. *Nelson*, 31 December-4 January (SSo).

**Virginia Rail** – there were reports from four locales: 3 heard at Long Point 14 December (BP et al.); 3 heard at the Ken Unit 28 December (BP); and 4 heard at Gibraltar and 1 heard e. of Drakesboro, *Muhlenberg*, all 29 December (BP).

**American Coot** – local peak counts included ca. 1900 still on Cave Run Lake 8 December (BWu); 236 on Cedar Creek Lake 6 January (RD) with 200 still there 8 February (RD); and 150 on Lake Reba 17 February (JSo).

**Sandhill Crane** – at Barren River Lake 3700+ were present by 2 December (WT et al.) with 9200 there 9 December (WT et al.), 8100+ there 16 December (WT), only 750 there 23 December (WT et al.), nearly 8500 there 7 January (WT et al.), and nearly 10,000 there 21 January (WT et al.), with new state high counts of 18,250 there 3 February (WT et al.) and 24,185 there 10/11 February (WT et al.), but only 1830 there 18 February (WT et al.); at Cecilia 200-250 were present 11 December (BP) with ca. 3900 there 21 January (EHa), and another new state high count of 22,000 there 18 February (EHa) with 15,475 there 24 February (EHa). Other reports of interest included ca. 1400 near Hodgenville, *Larue*, 21 January (EHa) with ca. 2100 there 27 January (EHa); ca. 300 at the Reformatory Lake 8 January (BP et al.); 2000 at McElroy Lake 12 February (TD); and 8500+ flying north se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 11 February (MB). A color-banded bird seen at the Reformatory Lake 10 January was banded as an imm. in *Lake*, IL, July 2011 (*fide* JFo); 2 color-banded birds at Cecilia 22 February (BP

et al.) had been banded in s.-cen. WI (AG).

**Least Sandpiper** – small numbers lingered at Blood River and Jonathan Creek into late January (HC); also reported were 8 at Guthrie Swamp, *Todd*, 1 January (ph. FL);

**Western Sandpiper** – very unusual for the winter season was 1 at Blood River 25 January (ph. HC).

**American Woodcock** – the severe winter weather resulted in a delay in the appearance of numbers of courting birds until the last week of February (m. ob.).

**Pomarine Jaeger** – a sub-ad. was present at Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 14-22 February (ph. RD et al.). KBRC review required.

**Bonaparte's Gull** – local peak counts included at least 400 total at Minor Clark and Cave Run Lake 8 December (BWu); 2400 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 14 December (HC, ME); 200 above Wolf Creek Dam 16 December (RD); 450+ at Barkley Dam 23 December (BP, EHu); at least 1100 at Barren River Lake 25 December (BP); 1134 on Ky Lake, *Calloway*, 27 December (HC); and 200 on Lake Cumberland at the Slate Branch boat ramp, *Pulaski*, 7 February (RD).

**Ring-billed Gull** – local peak counts included at least 2650 total at Minor Clark and Cave Run Lake 8 December (BWu) with ca. 2400 there 12 December (BWu) and 1800 there 19 January (BWu); 1500 at Waitsboro 9 December (RD, SD); ca. 5000 on Ky Lake above the dam 10 December (JSo) with more than 7500 in the dams vicinity 7-8 February (BWu, BP); at least 1000 at Barren River Lake 25 December (BP) with 3000 there 28 February (MB, JBy); 2470 at Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 31 December (JSo, EHu) with at least 1000 there during mid-February (RD et al.); and 1000 above Wolf Creek Dam 9 February (RD).

**Herring Gull** – local peak counts included 22 at both Waitsboro and on Lake Cumberland at Conley Bottom Resort, *Wayne*, 8 December (RD); at least 300 in the vic-

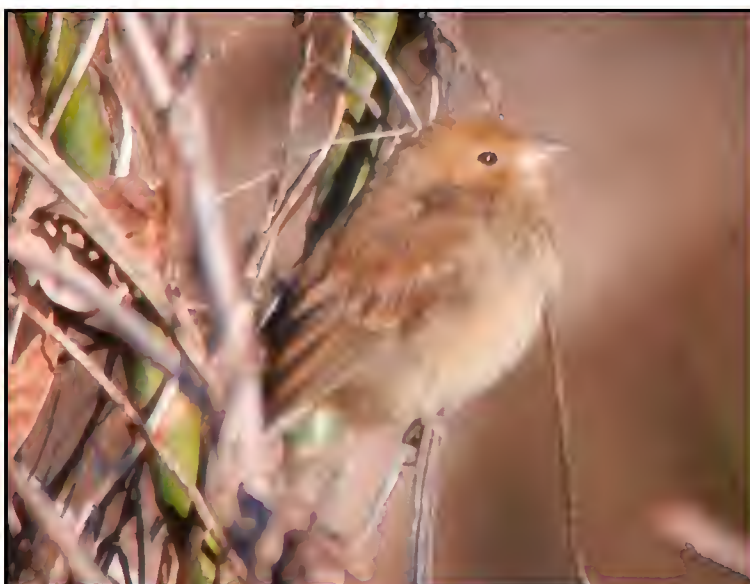




Prairie Falcon, *Hopkins*  
16 December 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Iceland Gull (w/ Herring Gulls) Ky Dam Village  
16 February 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Indigo Bunting, *Pulaski*  
1 January 2014  
Roseanna Denton



Great Black-backed Gull, Barkley Dam  
24 December 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Western Meadowlark, *Warren*  
23 February 2014  
Mary Yandell



Long-tailed Duck, *Franklin*  
5 February 2014  
Dave Baker





Marsh Wren, *Muhlenberg*  
29 December 2013  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



White-crowned Sparrow (Gambell's race), *Lawrence*  
26 December 2013  
Eddie Huber



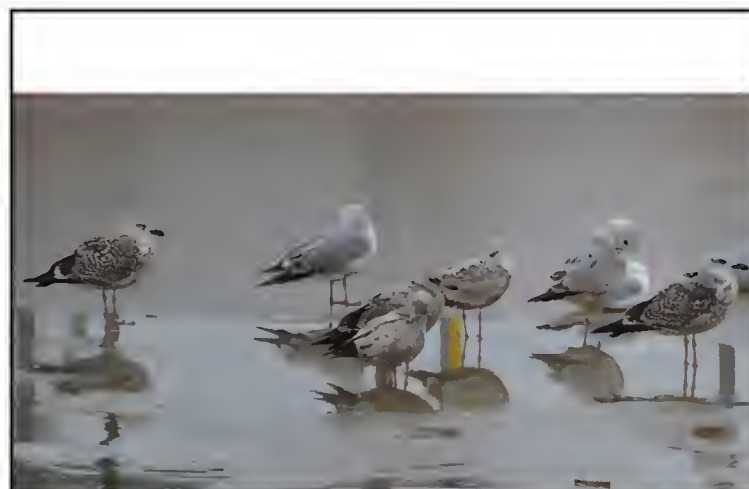
Surf Scoter w/ White-winged Scoter, *Jefferson*  
9 February 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Pomarine Jaeger, *Taylor*  
18 February 2014  
Roseanna Denton



Snow Buntings, *Jefferson*  
7 February 2014  
Eddie Huber



Great Black-backed Gulls (2) w/ Herring Gulls  
*Bracken*, 16 February 2014  
Jonathan Frodge

inity of Ky Dam 23 December (BP, EHu) with more than 700 there and 500 at Barkley Dam 7-8 February (BP, BWu); 12 at Cave Run Lake 26 January (BWu); at least 20 at Barren River Lake 4 February (BP, MY); 38 above Wolf Creek Dam 4 February (RD) with 58 there 9 February (RD); 12-15 at Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 15 February (BP, EHu); and 42 on the Ohio River at Craig's Creek, *Gallatin* (JSt), and at least 110 at Meldahl Dam (JF, SFg, BWu), both 16 February.

**Thayer's Gull** – there were reports from three locales: an ad. at Ky Dam 23 December (ph. BP, ph. EHu); an ad. at Calvert City 12 January (BP) with a second-year bird below Ky Dam 12 January (BP, JSo, CS); at least 1 first-year bird at Ky Dam 7-8 February (BP, p. BWu); and single adults at both Barkley Dam and at Ky Dam Village 12 February (HC).

**Thayer's Gull x Iceland Gull** – a likely intergrade first-year bird was seen below Barkley Dam 12 January (ph. BP, JSo, CS, BY) and 7/8 February (BP, BWu/BP, BWu, BY), and a second likely intergrade first-year bird seen above Ky Dam 7/8 February (†BP, BWu/BP, BWu, BY).

**Iceland Gull** – there were at least two birds reported: a first-year bird below Ky Dam 12 January (ph. BP, JSo, CS) with perhaps a different individual there 24 January (HC, ME); and a first-year bird above Ky Dam 7 February (BP, BWu) with likely the same bird seen at Ky Dam Village 16 February (ph. BP, MA). KBRC review required.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** – several birds continued in the vicinity of Ky Dam and Barkley Dam through the season as follows: a first-year bird at Ky Dam 12/23 December (BP, EHu); 2 ad. or third-year birds at Ky Dam 23 December (BP, EHu); 3 ads. or third-year birds at Sledd Creek 12 January (BP, JSo, CS); an ad. at Barkley Dam 7 February (BP, BWu); 2 ads. and a first-year bird at Ky Dam 7 February (BP, BWu); and at least 6 total in the vicinity of Ky Dam and Barkley Dam 8 February (BP, BWu, BY) with 4 in the same area 16 February (BP, MA). Also

reported were a second-year bird at the Falls of the Ohio 14 February (†BP et al.); an ad. at Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 15/16 February (ph. BP, MA, JSo, CS/RD); and an ad. at Meldahl Dam (ph. EB) and a first-year bird at Markland Dam (JSt), both 16 February.

**Great Black-backed Gull** – there were reports from five locales: a first-year bird at Barkley Dam 24/30 December (ph. BP, ph. EHu/BP) with presumably the same bird above the dam 7/8 February (ph. BWu, BP/ BWu, BP, BY) and perhaps below Ky Dam 16/19 February (ph. BP, MA/HC); a first-year bird on the Ohio River at Louisville 27 January (†MA); an ad. at the mouth of the Licking River 2 February (ph. EB); and a first-year bird at Meldahl Dam 14/15 February (SF/TC) with 2 first-year birds there 16 February (ph. JF, SFg).

**Glaucous Gull** – there were reports from three locales: a first-year bird at Calvert City 24 December (ph. BP, EHu)–15 January (JSo); a first-year bird at Ky Dam 26 January (HC)–7 February (ph. BWu, BP); and a first-year bird at Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 15 February (†BP, MA) that was the first to be reported in the state away from the large reservoirs in western Kentucky and the Ohio River.

**Forster's Tern** – as is the norm, small numbers lingered at Blood River into late December (HC et al.).

**Barn Owl** – there were four reports: 2 at a traditional territory in sw. *Logan* 14 December (FL); 1 at a traditional territory in e. *Calloway* 27 December (HC); 1 on the Ken Unit 28-29 December (BP); and 1 outside Harrodsburg, *Mercer*, during late January (CD, *fide* GD).

**Snowy Owl** – the bird found at the Louisville International Airport during late November was last seen 3 December (ph. KT, †BP); another individual was present along the Snyder Freeway, ne. *Jefferson*, 24-27 December (ph. LY) but found to be in poor health and subsequently captured; unfortunately, the bird died during rehabilitation efforts (EWf).



**Short-eared Owl** – there were reports from 15 locales: 2 continuing at Schochoh, *Logan*, into early December with 1 last seen there 26 December (ST et al.); 1 at the Louisville International Airport 7 December (BP); up to 5 at the Sinclair Unit during the period (P&SF et al.); up to 10 (19 December) at Parsons Pond, *Logan*, 3 December–4 January (ph. FL et al.); 1 along Harley-Thompson Road, *Shelby*, 19 December (PS); 2–4 along Bliss Road sw. of Columbia, *Adair*, 25–28 December (DC, RD); 1–4 s. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 18 December through February (MB, JBy, RuS, et al.); 1 along Schuler Lane, *Oldham*, 27 December (ph. PB, JBe); 1–2 along Horntown Road, e. *Grayson*, 10 December (SK, JKl)–4 January (JSo et al.); at least 1 in the Pond Creek Bottoms 7 February (BP, BWu) with at least 7 there 12 December (MY, BY, BP); 1–2 at Spindletop Farm 10–17 February (JSo et al.); 1–2 at CVG during early to mid-February (LM) with 5 there 26 February (HW) and 4 there 27 February (JR); 2 along Chamberlain Lane 16 February (PS); 1 nw. of Hansbrough, *Hardin*, 19 February (BP, EL); and 3 on the Letcher Tract of Clay WMA, *Nicholas*, 28 February (SFr).

**Rufous Hummingbird** – the ad. male banded at Lexington was last seen 5 December (DB); the imm. female banded at Winchester, *Clark*, was last seen 24 December (B&RE); the imm. male banded near Berea, *Madison*, was last seen 27 December (BS); an ad. female present all fall (banded 4 December) at Henderson, *Henderson*, lingered to 5 January (EMa, ba. BP); an ad. female present since mid-October (banded 19 December) sw. of Campbellsville, *Taylor*, lingered to 6 January (JBa, KL, ba. BP); and the two returning ad. females in *Barren* (L&RY) and *Hart* (MiS), both lingered to 6 January.

**Selasphorus sp.** – the identity of at least 3 additional birds could not be confirmed: 1 near Utica, *Daviess*, during early December (RiS); 1 n. of Somerset, *Pulaski*, from fall to 6 January (AS, ph. BP); and at least

1 bird s. of Greenville, *Muhlenberg*, from fall to 6 January (ph. GSn).

**Red-headed Woodpecker** – good numbers wintered in the vicinity of American Beech trees in the e. part of the state (SFr).

**Merlin** – there were reports from 11 locales: probably at least 2 at the Sinclair Unit through the season with an impressive tally of 5 there 18 January (BP, MA); 1 in the Pond Creek Bottoms 11/12 December (BP, JSo, et al./RD) with 2 there 11 January (MY, BY, et al.); 1 at Wilmore, *Jessamine*, 18 December (SP); 1 along Springdale Road, ne. *Jefferson*, 5 January (SSE); 1 nw. of Boston, *Nelson*, 11 January (BP, BBC); 1 at Cox's Park, Louisville, 14 January (EH)/26 February (ph. KB); 1 along Tunnel Mill Road s. of Bloomfield, *Nelson*, 19 January (ph. DM); 1 at Merry Oaks, *Barren*, 24 January (TD); 1 at Jacobson Park 1 February (SP); 1 at McElroy Lake 14 February (TD); and 1 at Spindletop Farm 15 February (ph. DL).

**Peregrine Falcon** – reports of birds away from traditional breeding territories included wintering individuals at Ky Dam and at the US 68/KY80 bridge over Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, during the season (m. ob.); also reported were a juv. over Ballard WMA 17 December (HC, BP, et al.); 1 at Spindletop Farm 4 February (DL); 1 at McElroy Lake 21 February (TD); and 1 along the Green River at Figgett Bend, *Hart*, 25 February (JSo).

**Prairie Falcon** – 1 was present in the Pond River Bottoms 11 December (ph. BP et al.)–11 January (BP, JSo, et al.). KBRC review required.

**Fish Crow** – 2 returned to Blood River by 25 February (HC).

**Tree Swallow** – 2 s. of Glendale, *Hardin* (CE), and 2 at Allensville, *Todd* (DH), both 22 February, were the earliest to be reported with birds reported at several locales the following day.

**Cave Swallow/Cliff Swallow** – an unidentified, pale-rumped swallow was seen at



Green River Lake at Holmes Bend, *Adair*, 7 December (†RD).

**Black-capped Chickadee** – 1 was banded at Ashland, *Boyd*, 26 December (ba./†RCa). KBRC review required.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** – the species was particularly scarce this winter with only 1-3 reported on 12 CBCs.

**Brown-headed Nuthatch** – birds continued at Ky Dam Village during the season with 4 confirmed there 8 February (BWu, BP).

**House Wren** – there were an unprecedented number of reports, all being included: single birds along both Goose Creek and Beargrass Creek, *Jefferson*, 15 December (MWa); 2 at different locales in *Wayne* on the CBC 17 December (†RD); singles e. of Hodgenville, *Larue* (†MA), and at Yatesville Lake WMA, *Lawrence* (†BP, EHu), both 26 December; 1 heard calling near Ano, *Pulaski*, 27 December (†RD); 1 at Gibraltar 29 December (ph. BP); 1 near Mt. Zion, *Pulaski* (†RD) and 2 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, (†RD, SD), all 1 January; 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 8 January (†BL); and 1 s. of Smiths Grove, *Warren*, 23 February (AH).

**Sedge Wren** – there was one report: 1 along Bethel Church Road, w. *McCracken*, 17 December (BP, EHu, RCr, SRe).

**Marsh Wren** – there were two reports: 1 at Gibraltar 29 December (ph. BP) and 1 se. of Shepherdsville, *Bullitt*, 4 January (†MA, ph. MY, et al.).

**Hermit Thrush** – impressive tallies included a new state record high count of 56 at Yatesville Lake WMA, *Lawrence*, 26 December (BP, EHu) and 33 at West Ky WMA 30 December (DAk, KMc).

**Brown Thrasher** – 10 at Yatesville Lake WMA, *Lawrence*, 26 December (BP, EHu) represented a relatively impressive tally for winter.

**Cedar Waxwing** – the species was relatively scarce early in the season, when only 1-177 were reported on 20 CBCs; however, after mid-January waxwings were essentially absent through the remainder of the late winter.

**Lapland Longspur** – reports of interest included 25 in extreme s. *Todd* 5 December (RuS); at least 10 at Spindletop Farm 10 December (BP) with small numbers present there from early January to mid-February with peak counts of ca. 200 there 8 January (RO) and up to about 50 there during early February (m. ob.); at least 120 in the Pond River Bottoms 11 December (BP) with 75 there 16 December (BP, EHu); ca. 300 s. of Petersburg, *Boone*, 15-16 December (BP, EHu) with 150-200 there 9 January (BP, EHu); 115 w. of Murray, *Calloway*, 2 January (HC); at least 100 at the Reformatory Lake 8 January (BP et al.); small numbers present along Chamberlain Lane from early January to mid-February with a peak count of ca. 75 there 6 February (JBe, PB, et al.); ca. 200 sw. of Owensboro, *Daviess*, 8 January (DAy); ca. 150 at Ft. Campbell, *Christian*, 5 February (DaM); 50 along KY 99, sw. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 6 February (MB); ca. 350 w. of Woodburn, *Warren*, 7 February (TD); and ca. 600 in farmland e. of Cedar Creek Lake 8 February (RD).

**Snow Bunting** – the species was reported at nine locales: 1 at CVG 15 December (†HW); at least 2 at the Reformatory Lake 8 January (BP et al.); at least 4 s. of Petersburg, *Boone*, 9 January (BP, EHu); at least 52 along Chamberlain Lane 6 February (JBe, PB, et al.) with peak counts of nearly 90 there 7 February (ph. MY et al.) and at least 97 there 8 February (ph. MY et al.), 40 still there 9 February (m. ob.), and 15 last seen there 17 February (JBe, PB); at least 26 at Spindletop Farm 7 February (ph. CF et al.) with a peak count of ca. 30 there 8 February (DL) and 8 last seen there 16 February (TNo, LC); at least 1 ne. of Cynthiana, *Harrison*, 9 February (SM); at least 3 along US 27 ca. 2 mi. n. of the *Fayette* line, *Bourbon*, 9 February (SM); at least 1 e. of Ellis Park, *Henderson*, 10 February (ph. SG, TG); and 5 along Steele Bottom Road, *Gallatin*, 17 February (LM).

**Orange-crowned Warbler** – 1 was present in a yard at Murray, *Calloway*, 28 January (ph. RU).

**Common Yellowthroat** – 1 female was seen at Yatesville Lake WMA, *Lawrence*, 26 December (EHu, †BP).

**Palm Warbler** – remarkable tallies of 21 and 22 were compiled on the Western *Allen* and Eastern *Allen* CBCs, 14 & 28 December, respectively (*fide* MB, JBy). Otherwise, 1-2 were reported from several locales through mid-January.

**Pine Warbler** – as is the norm, a few birds were reported during the CBC season with returning birds noted at several locales by mid-February; 2 were present at feeders in a yard at Murray, *Calloway*, 28 January (ME).

**American Tree Sparrow** – local peak counts of interest included 109 at West Ky WMA 30 December (DAk, KMc); at least 45 at Surrey Hills Farm, ne. *Jefferson*, 19 January (BP) with at least 80 there 30 January–5 February (BP) with 45-50 still there 26 February (BP); at least 50 at Bridgeport, *Franklin*, during early February (JBr).

**Chipping Sparrow** – 1-39 were reported on 15 CBCs; also of interest were 25 near Moores Creek, *Jackson*, 2 January (EMi).

**Le Conte's Sparrow** – there were three reports: 1 at Gibraltar 29 December (BP); 1 at West Ky WMA 30 December (†DAk); and at least 2 just e. of Long Point 8 February (ph. BWu, BP).

**White-crowned Sparrow** – an individual of the *gambelli* race at Yatesville Lake WMA, *Lawrence*, 26 December (ph. EHu, BP) was unusual so far east in the state.

**Lincoln's Sparrow** – 2 were reported at West Ky WMA 30 December (†KMc).

**Indigo Bunting** – 1 was seen at Hogue, *Pulaski*, 1 January (ph. RD).

**Western Meadowlark** – there were three reports: at least 4 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 8 February (ph. BP, BWu); at least 2 and possibly up to 10 w. of Cayce, *Fulton*, 8 February (BP, BWu); and 1 at

McElroy Lake 23 February (ph. MY, BP, et al.).

**Brewer's Blackbird** – the species was reported from five locales: 2-6 scattered at a few locales in rural nw. *Ballard* 13 December (BP) with 3 along Smokey Road, *Ballard*, 17 December (BP, EHu, RCr) and 1 there 9 February (SRe); 1 along Frazer Road, *Wayne*, 17 December (†RD); 3 over the Ken Unit 28 December (BP); 3 along Frostburg Road, e. *Hopkins*, 12 December (RD) with singles there 19 December (RD) and 11 January (JSo), 6 in the vicinity 11 January (BP et al.), and 10-20 there 7 February (BP, BWu); and 13 at the traditional wintering area along Royal-Oak Grove Road, e. *Grayson*, 4 January (JSo et al.).

**Rusty Blackbird** – 250 at the Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union*, 20 January (KMi) represented the peak count for the season.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** – a female was seen along KY 862 ne. of Anton, e. *Hopkins*, 20 December (†BP, EHu). KBRC review required.

**Baltimore Oriole** – an ad. male was present in a yard at Lexington 4-28 January (ph. KG).

**Purple Finch** – the species was remarkably scarce this winter with only 1-6 reported on only six CBCs; most reports during the season were generated during the Great Backyard Bird Count (eBird data).

**Pine Siskin** – there were only two reports: 4 in LBL, *Trigg*, 14 December (BGi, SB) and 1 at West Ky WMA 30 December (†DAk, KMc).

#### Addendum to the Spring 2013 report:

**White-winged Dove** – 1 was present along West Old State Road w. of Scottsville, *Allen*, 9 May (†JBk, TB, AB). KBRC review required.

**Observers:** Danny Akers (DAk), Audubon Society of Kentucky (ASK), Michael Autin (MA), David Ayer (DAy), Dave Baker (DB), Janice Bardin (JBa), Rebecca Bates (RB), Jamin Beachy (JBy), Matthan Beachy (MB), Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Jane Bell (JBe),

Pat Bell (PB), Carol Besse (CB), Shannon Brockway (SB), Abraham Brubaker (AB), John David Brubaker (JBk), Timothy Brubaker (TB), John Brunjes (JBr), David Burke (DB), Eric Burkholder (EB), Wendy Butler Burt (WB), Ron Canterbury (RCa), Hap Chambers (HC), Lorie Chesnut (LC), Suzanne Clingman (SC), Derek Coomer (DC), Charlie Crawford (CC), Rodney Crice (RCr), Mary Howell Cromer (MC), Thomas Czubek (TC), Wes Davenport (WD), Roseanna Denton (RD), Steve Denton (SD), Barb Dickison (BD), Mike Dorcas (MD), Cheryl Dorman (CD), Gary Dorman (GD), Tom Durbin (TD), Melissa Easley (ME), Joshua Eastlake (JE), Bob & Rosemary Ekes (B&RE), Chris Everson (CE), Blaine Ferrell (BF), Sam Fitton (SFt), Caleb Fligor (CF), Preston & Shari Forsythe (P&SF), Rob Foster (RF), Scott Freidhof (SFr), Jonathan Frodge (JF), Samantha Frodge (SFg), Kim Garner (KG), Brooke Gilley (BGi), Brad Goodrich (BGo), Andrew Gossens (AG), Steve Graham (SG), Teresa Graham (TG), Debbie Hamilton (DH), Erin Harper (EHa), Richard Healy (RH), Nora House (NH), Eddie Huber (EHu), Bill Hull (BH), Aaron Hulsey (AH), Kathi Hutton (KH), Meghan Kahn (MK), Joe Kappa (JKa), Kayl Kite (KK), Janet Kistler (JKi), Steve Kistler (SK), David Lang (DL), Kristi Larson (KL), Ellis Lauder milk (EL), Bill Lisowsky (BL), Charlie Logsdon (CL), Frank Lyne (FL), Kevin Mahoney (KMa), Dax Manley (DMy), Scott Marsh (SM), Eleanor Martin (EMa), Kelly McKay (KMc), Lee McNeely (LM), Andrew Melnykovych (AM), John Meredig (JM), Keith Michalski (KMi), Eliot Miller (EMi), Chris Minor (CM), Donald Morse, Jr. (DoM), Daniel Moss (DaM), multiple observers (m. ob.), Tina Nauman (TNa), Teresa Noel (TNo), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP), Sydney Penner (SP), Charlie Plush (CP), Scott Record (SRe), Frank Renfrow (FR), Keith Richardson (KRi), Mike Riggs (MRi), Keith Robinson (KRo), Steve Rogers (SRo), Jeff Rowe (JR), Mark Rubeo (MRu), Vicki Sandage (VS), Sally Seyal (SSe), Brenda Slone (BS), Georgia Snyder (GSn), Carol Sole (CS), Jeff Sole (JSO), Scott Somershoe (SSo), Pam Spaulding (PS), Gary Sprandel (GSp), Rita Stallings (RiS), Jack Stenger (JSt), Matt Stickel (MaS), Ruben Stoll (RuS), Del Striegel (DS), Mitch Sturgeon (MiS), Ann Suttle (AS), Wayne Tamminga (WT), Charles Thompson (CT), Mark Tower (MT), Kevin Turner (KT), Steve Tyson (ST), Rebecca Urban (RU), Kelly Vowels (KV), Major Waltman (MWa), Sean Ward (SW), Eileen Wicker (EWr), Eric Williams (EWs), Barbara Woerner (BWo), Mike Wright (MWr), Helen Wright-North (HW), Brian Wulker (BWu), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY), Lauren Young (LY), Lew & Ruth Young (L&RY), Bill Zimmerman (BZ), Stephen Zipperer (SZ).

### K.O.S. SPRING 2014 MEETING

#### Mammoth Cave National Park

April 25–27, 2014

Blaine R. Ferrell

Registration for the meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. Friday evening by Lee McNeely in the Trog Room of the Mammoth Cave Hotel. Pat and Jane Bell had led a field trip for early meeting attendees in Mammoth Cave National Park earlier in the afternoon.

Vice-President Pat Bell opened the Friday evening program at 7:05 p.m. by thanking the staff at Mammoth Cave for their help with the meeting. She turned the meeting over to President Steve Kistler who presented a Kentucky bird quiz. The quiz included partial photographs of birds, and the audience was to guess the species. Following the quiz, Vice-President Bell introduced three young men in attendance who had started a young birders club in Frankfort. She then introduced the first speaker of the evening, Mark Winland, former student at Eastern Kentucky University and recipient of a grant from the Society's Burt L. Monroe Avian Research Fund. He presented results of his research on "Vocalization of adult American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*): effect of breeding stage, sex, and

context on call use and call characteristics.” Mr. Winland described three call types of American Kestrels and the specific contexts under which they are given. Following questions for the speaker, Vice-President Bell dismissed everyone for a short break. Following the break she introduced the evening’s second speaker, David Lang, who presented an informative talk on a “Kenya Birding Safari” he took from May 27 to June 19, 2013. His talk was accompanied by many excellent photos he had taken of some of the 654 species of birds that had been observed. Following some questions, Pat Bell described the field trips scheduled for Saturday morning. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Excellent weather greeted field trip participants on Saturday. Four trips were conducted within Mammoth Cave National Park during the morning, and three trips were held in the afternoon, two within the Park and another to Chaney Lake State Nature Preserve and the Western Kentucky University Farm in Warren County.

President Steve Kistler called the Saturday evening business meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Trog Room of the Mammoth Cave Hotel. He mentioned the establishment of the Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund, and the availability of an online application, due May 15, to sponsor attendance at a weeklong American Birding Association camp for young birders. President Kistler reminded members of a silent auction organized by Dona Coates to be held during the social hour at the conclusion of the evening program. Blaine Ferrell compiled the list of 121 species from the Saturday field trips.

Vice-President Bell introduced the Saturday evening guest speaker, Dr. David Buehler, Professor of Wildlife Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He presented an excellent summary of research entitled “Saving our imperiled warblers: ecology and conservation of Golden-winged Warblers.” Dr. Buehler described efforts to fill in gaps in our knowledge regarding the life cycle of Golden-winged Warblers in order to develop a comprehensive conservation strategy. Golden-winged Warblers have declined by 99% in the Appalachian Mountains, but the Cumberland Plateau currently remains a stronghold for them. Hybridization between Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers seems to occur frequently in some areas. Using new photocell technology, Golden-winged Warblers have now been tracked during their migration to wintering areas in Central and South America. Ensuring appropriate habitat on both the wintering and breeding grounds should help maintain the population. At the conclusion of the evening program, Steve Kistler outlined the field trips for Sunday. He also announced that the fall 2014 meeting would be held September 19-21 at Lake Barkley State Resort Lodge. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and was followed by the social hour and silent auction.

Three Sunday morning field trips left the lodge at 8:00 a.m. Three species were added to the weekend list, bringing it up to 124.

#### **Attendance at the Spring 2014 K.O.S. Meeting**

Berea:	Rebecca Bates, Rob Foster, Lynne & Sam Spencer
Bowling Green:	Tom Durbin, Blaine Ferrell, Marilyn Mattingly
Burlington:	Lee & Lynda McNeely
Carlisle:	Eva Lee & Wendell Kingsolver
Cox’s Creek:	Dona Coates
Danville:	Ginny & Neil Eklund
Elizabethtown:	Doug & Janet Gebler
Frankfort:	Joyce Bender, Joyce Fry
Georgetown:	David & Betsy Lang
Glasgow:	Linda Craiger, Sandra Moss
Greenville:	Steve & Teresa Graham
Lexington:	Steve Ahler, Irene Camargo, Bruce Cryder, Pat Howard, Mark Morgan, Jessica Moss, Ronan O’Carra, Antonio Xeira



Louisville:	Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Carol Besse, Wanda & Warren Bilkey, Rob Lane, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Nancy Vance, Ben & Mary Yandell
Morehead:	Fred & Katie Busroe, Brian Reeder, Brian Wulker
Mount Sterling:	Gerald Robe
Munfordville:	Steve Kistler
Owensboro:	Marilee & Wendell Thompson
Prospect:	Win Ahrens
Somerset:	Gay Hodges, Charline Marrinan
Upton:	Bonnie Avery
Waddy:	Adam, Colton, & Tanner Shepard
Cincinnati, OH:	Dave & Gail Wulker
Greenville, IN:	Jane Fender

**Birds Observed at the KOS Spring Meeting at  
Mammoth Cave National Park and Vicinity,  
April 25-27, 2014**

The following species were observed by KOS members during the weekend of 25-27 April 2014 at Mammoth Cave National Park and vicinity (Note: species seen at and near Chaney Lake, Warren County, are designated with a "C" and those seen at the Western Kentucky University Farm, Warren County, are designated with a "W." All others were reported within or adjacent to Mammoth Cave National Park): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler (C), Green-winged Teal (C), Northern Bobwhite (C), Wild Turkey, Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs (C), Semipalmated Sandpiper (C), Least Sandpiper (C), Wilson's Snipe (W), Rock Pigeon, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, American Kestrel, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Loggerhead Shrike (C), White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Horned Lark (C), Purple Martin, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, American Pipit (C), Ovenbird, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Blue-winged Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, Cape May Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Northern Parula, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Palm Warbler, Pine Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Lark Sparrow (C), Savannah Sparrow (C), Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink (W), Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark (W), Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow. The total number of species was 124.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

**Visit the NEW K.O.S. Web Site!**

You may now find information about the Society on our new web site at the following link: [www.birdky.org](http://www.birdky.org). Please bookmark this web site address, as the former web site will be removed when the migration of all information from it is completed. The K.O.S. Board would like to thank Dr. Gary Ritchison at Eastern Kentucky University for his many years as site host and manager. Gary created the Society's web site way back in 1998, and he has maintained it as a volunteer ever since!

**Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available**

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to K.O.S. and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to a young birder between the ages of 13 and 18 who lives in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition for a young birder to attend an American Birding Association Summer Camp. Details about the A.B.A. camps can be found on the A.B.A. website. To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the K.O.S. web site (<http://biology.eku.edu/kos/Kingsolver.htm>), write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to K.O.S. at a meeting, or in writing. The deadline to apply for a 2015 Kingsolver Scholarship is May 15, 2015.

**Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available**

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to \$500, please contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at ([scott.marsh@twc.com](mailto:scott.marsh@twc.com)).

**Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Avian Research Grants Available**

The Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Avian Research Fund supports research on birds in Kentucky with monetary awards of up to \$1000. For guidelines on how to apply, visit the K.O.S. web site (<http://www.biology.eku.edu/kos/monroe.htm>) or contact Kathryn Heyden, Chair of the Burt Monroe Fund Committee, at Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601 ([kathryn.heyden@ky.gov](mailto:kathryn.heyden@ky.gov)).

**Kentucky Bird Records Committee**

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) is charged with determining the validity of records of rare and out-of-season birds in Kentucky. Sightings of such birds should be documented with information supporting the identification and promptly submitted to the KBRC. Photographic evidence is desirable but not essential. Electronic documentation is preferred and should be submitted to KBRC Secretary, Ben Yandell, via e-mail at [secy@kybirdrecords.org](mailto:secy@kybirdrecords.org). If electronic submission is not feasible, paper documentation can be mailed to Ben Yandell, KBRC Secretary, 513 Lymington Ct., Louisville, KY 40243.



Cinnamon Teal, *Warren*  
14 February 2014  
Blaine Ferrell



Le Conte's Sparrow, *Fulton*  
8 February 2014  
Brian Wulker



Snowy Owl, *Jefferson*  
27 December 2013  
Raptor Rehabilitation of Kentucky



Great Black-backed Gull, *Campbell/Kenton*  
2 February 2014  
Eric Burkholder



Rufous Hummingbird, *Madison*  
15 December 2013  
Caleb Fligor



Orange-crowned Warbler, *Calloway*  
28 January 2014  
Rebecca Urban



# *The Kentucky Warbler*

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

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## THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Journal of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, published quarterly in February, May, August, and November, *The Kentucky Warbler* is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Current membership categories and corresponding dues follow: Regular (\$15.00); Contributing (\$25.00); Student (\$10.00); Family (\$20.00); and Life (\$300.00). Direct manuscripts and communications to the editor. Send membership dues to the Treasurer. Make requests for back issues to the Corresponding Secretary.

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## THE COVER

We thank Rodney Crice for the image of the Red-necked Grebes (*Podiceps grisegena*) taken 9 March 2014 on the Ohio River off the Covington waterfront, Kenton County (see Field Note, p. 78). Financial support for color reproduction in this issue provided by the Daniel Boone National Forest.



## SPRING 2014 SEASON

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

Climatic conditions during spring 2014 were somewhat variable. Temperatures averaged 4-5°F cooler than normal statewide during the month of March, but slightly warmer than normal during April and May. Precipitation across central Kentucky was below normal during March, but about average in the west and above normal in the east. In contrast, April precipitation was above normal statewide, with some stations reporting nearly twice the normal rainfall. May became drier than normal again across most of the state, particularly across the east and west, with most stations in those portions of Kentucky recording about half of normal rainfall. The period of wet weather during April was significant enough to cause a brief appearance of the transient lakes in southern Warren County, but they quickly disappeared.

Probably as a result of the cool early spring conditions, there were few early reports. Rarity highlights included continuing White-winged Scoters and Long-tailed Ducks, Red-throated Loon, an unprecedented flight of Red-necked Grebes, Purple Gallinule, and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. With the passing of each year, it should be noted that more and more reports contained herein have been gleaned from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's on-line bird database, eBird. Many reports continue to be posted to the Society's birding listserv, BIRDKY, with some redundancy between the two. In all cases, an attempt is made to verify that reports contained herein have been accurately reported to either source by direct communication with reporters.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

**Abbreviations** – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ph.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vr.” next to an observer's initials indicates that the observation was documented with recordings of call notes or song; “†” next to an observer's initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report; **Place names:** Adkins Swamp, Sinclair Unit, Muhlenberg; Anchorage Trail, e. Jefferson; Barkley Dam, Lyon/Livingston (unless otherwise noted); Barren River Lake, Allen/Barren (unless otherwise noted); Berea College Forest, Madison; Bernheim Forest, Bullitt (unless otherwise noted); Blood River = Blood River embayment, Ky Lake, Calloway; Cave Lake (formerly Cooley's Pond), Wayne; Cave Run Lake, Bath/Rowan; Cecilia, Hardin; Cedar Creek Lake, Lincoln; Chaney Lake, Warren; Cherokee Park, Louisville; Clear Creek WMA, Hopkins; Craig's Creek = Craig's Creek embayment off the Ohio River downstream from Warsaw, Gallatin; DBNF = Daniel Boone National Forest; Eastpark Industrial Park, Boyd/Greenup; Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson; Flemingsburg, Flemingsburg Reservoir, Fleming; Freeman Lake, Hardin; Horseshoe Road = slough along Horseshoe Road, w. Henderson; J. Dance Road, e. of Sauerheber, Henderson; Jacobson Park, Lexington; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, Livingston/Marshall; Kentucky Dam Village [SRP], Marshall; Ky Lake = Kentucky Lake, Calloway/Marshall/Trigg; Kuttawa = Lake Barkley near Old Kuttawa Rec. Area, Lyon; Lake Linville, Rockcastle; Lake Peewee, Hopkins; LBL = Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, Lyon/Trigg; LBL Nature Station, Lyon/Trigg; Lexington, Fayette; Little Lick = Little Lick Recreation Area, DBNF, Pulaski; Long Point = Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR, Fulton; Lower Hickman Bottoms, w. Fulton; Mammoth Cave = Mammoth Cave National Park, Edmonson (unless otherwise noted); Markland

Dam, on the Ohio River, Gallatin; McConnell Springs = McConnell Springs Park, Fayette; McElroy Lake, s. Warren; Melco = Melco flood retention basin, s. Jefferson; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan; Morehead, Rowan; Mud Creek = Mud Creek floodplain at KY 94, e. of Hickman, Fulton; NWR = National Wildlife Refuge; nw. of Powderly = Muhlenberg County Rail-Trail section s. of Western Ky. Parkway, nw. of Powderly, Muhlenberg; Obion WMA, n. of Hickman, Fulton; Open Pond, w. Fulton; Owsley Fork Lake, Madison/Jackson; Parsons Pond (formerly KY 739 Pond) = transient lake e. of KY 739 e. of Licksillet, sw. Logan; Pond Creek Bottoms, along KY 85 ne. of Anton, Hopkins; Pope Lick Park (formerly Floyds Fork Park), Jefferson; Reformatory Lake, nr. Buckner, Oldham; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson; Shaker Village, Mercer; Sinclair Unit, Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg; Spindletop Farm = University of Kentucky Spindletop Farm, Fayette; SNP = State Nature Preserve; SP = State Park; SRP = State Resort Park; Surrey Hills Farm, ne. Jefferson; Upper Hickman Bottoms, Fulton; Walton Pond, s. Warren; Warsaw, Gallatin; West Somerset Bypass = flooded field along the West Somerset Bypass, Pulaski; White City WMA, e. of Morton's Gap, Hopkins; WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** – reports of interest included a few hundred still along J. Dance Road 1 March (BP, EHu); 28 still at Cave Run Lake 5 March (ph. BWu); 2 at Cedar Creek Lake 8 March (RF, RBa); 15 on Walton Pond 9 March (BDa, RL, BP); 26 at Flemingsburg 13 March (ph. BWu); 1 at Spindletop Farm 15 March (VS); and 6 that lingered along J. Dance Road to 19 April (CC et al.) with 2 last seen there 3 May (ph. CC).

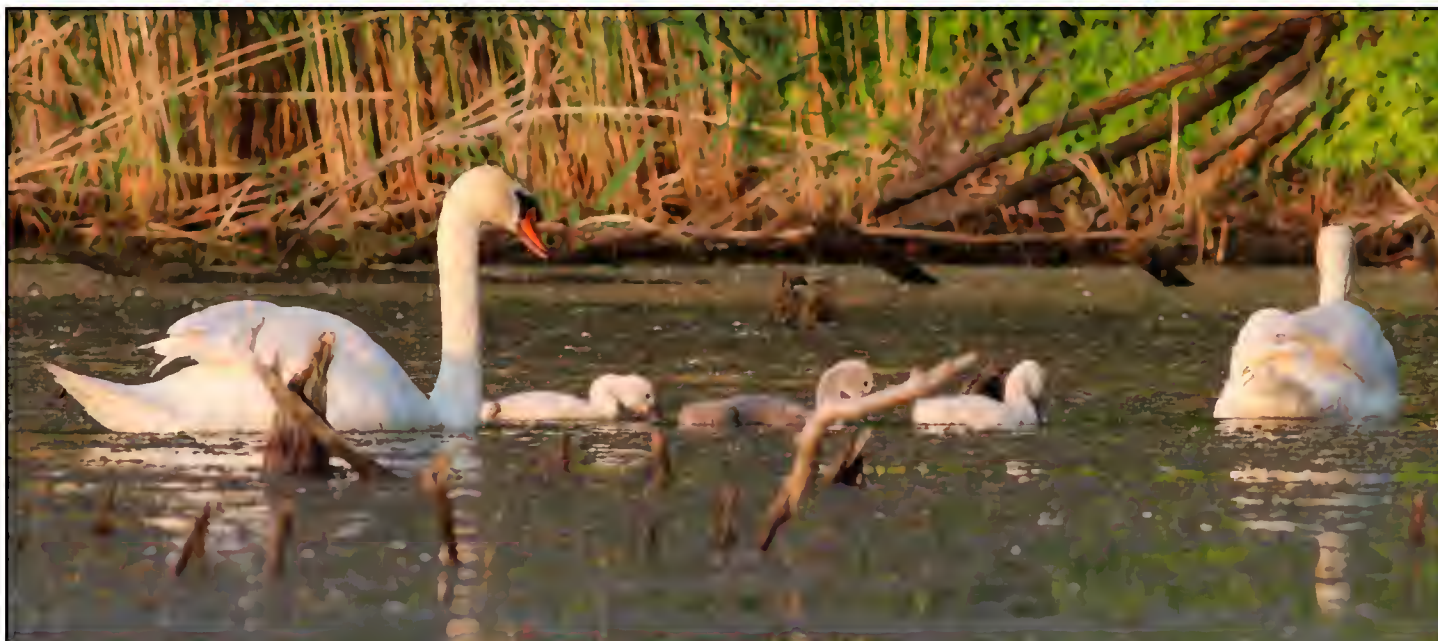
**Ross's Goose** – reports of interest included 1 on Lower Douglas Lake, Ft. Knox, Hardin, 10 March (ph. ML); 1 on Honker Lake, LBL, Trigg, 30 March (ph. MCu); and 2 on the Ohio River at Louisville 1 April (ph. TB, CBe).

**Cackling Goose** – 4 were still at Osprey Cove Lake, Shelby, 6 March (†AM).

**Mute Swan** – single birds lingered at several sites into March including 1 at Jacobson Park 7-9 March (SPe, AM, et al.), and a pair was present at Adkins Swamp 30 March into April (S&TG) with 3 cygnets in their company 26 May (ph. S&TG).

**Tundra Swan** – 6 were at Craig's Creek 7 March (ph. EHu) and 33 were still at Horseshoe Road 10 March (CC) with 2 last seen there 1 April (CC).

**Gadwall** – modest peak counts included 300 at Sauerheber 1 March (KM); 120 at McElroy Lake 15 March (BP, JSo); and 300+ in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 20 April (BP).



Mute Swan family, Muhlenberg  
26 May 2014  
Steve Graham



**American Wigeon** – a male on Owsley Fork Lake 23 May (ph. RBa, RF) was very tardy.

**Blue-winged Teal** – 2 along J. Dance Road 1 March (CC, BP, EH<sub>u</sub>) were the earliest to be reported. Peak counts of interest included 200 at Adkins Swamp 30 March (S&TG); 550+ in w. *Henderson* 5 April (BP et al.); 100 at Hays Kennedy Park, *Jefferson*, 6 April (ALi); 800+ in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 20 April (BP); and 60 at Chaney Lake 26 April (BP, KOS). A male lingered at Melco into June (m. ob.); other tardy birds included 1 nw. of Powderly 28/30 May (ph. S&TG) and 3 at Obion WMA 30 May (HC, ME).

**Cinnamon Teal x Blue-winged Teal** – there were two reports: a male at Ellis Park, *Henderson*, 5 April (ph. BP, CBs, MS, BY, MY) and a male on a pond along US 31E a few mi. n. of Jonesville, *Hart*, 21 April (ph. JSo).

**Northern Shoveler** – peak counts of interest included 150 at Sauerheber 1 March (KM) with 400 there 5 April (KM); and 240 at Long Point 28 March (HC, ME). Tardy males were present at Pumphouse Pond, *Pulaski*, 23 May (ph. RD) and at Melco 30 May into June (BP, m. ob.).

**Northern Pintail** – reports of interest included 15 on the Ohio River from Meldahl Dam to Ripley, OH, *Mason*, 6 March (BP); 30 at the Sinclair Unit 6 March (S&TG); 70 along J. Dance Road 7 March (JSo); and 35 at McElroy Lake 9 March (BP, RL, BDa).

**Green-winged Teal** – peak counts of interest included at least 100 at Chaney Lake 15 March (BP, JSo); 200 along J. Dance Road 7 March (JSo); 375 at Long Point 21 March (HC, ME) with 300 still there 28 March (HC, ME); 450 at Sauerheber 23 March (JMg); 300+ in w. *Henderson* 5 April (BP et al.); and 325+ in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 20 April (BP).

**Redhead** – peak counts of interest included 200 on Owsley Fork Lake 1 March (RF, RBa) with 251 counted there 6 March (RF, RBa); 60+ on the Reformatory Lake and 250-300 on the Ohio River at Louis-

ville, both 5 March (BP); 60 at Flemingsburg 5 March (BW<sub>u</sub>); 160+ on the Ohio River from Maysville, *Mason*, to Vanceburg, *Lewis*, 6 March (JBr); 125+ on the Ohio River above Warsaw, *Gallatin*, 7 March (EH<sub>u</sub>); 116 on Lake Linville 8 March (JSo, CS); 64 at Jacobson Park 9 March (RO); 150+ on McElroy Lake and 250 on Walton Pond, both 9 March (BP, RL, BDa); 200 just s. of the Grassy Pond-Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union*, 14 March (KM); and 100+ on Barren River Lake 15 March (BP).

**Canvasback** – peak counts of interest included ca. 70 at Flemingsburg 5 March (BW<sub>u</sub>); 75 on the Ohio River downstream from Warsaw 6 March (BP); 50 on McElroy Lake 9 March (BDa, RL, BP); 55 on Walton Pond 15 March (BP, JSo); and 33 on Freeman Lake 17 March (BP).

**Ring-necked Duck** – peak counts of interest included 110 at Flemingsburg 5 March (BW<sub>u</sub>); 250 on Owsley Fork Lake 6 March (RF, RBa); and 400 on the Knob Lick Branch Reservoir, *Fleming*, 7 March (BW<sub>u</sub>);

**Greater Scaup** – late winter numbers dropped off quickly by early March; 50+ were still on the Ohio River at Louisville 5 March (BP); other reports of interest included 20 above Meldahl Dam 6 March (BP); 12 on Lake Peewee 7 March (JSo); 6 on Parsons Pond 8 March (FL); 12 on Lexington Reservoir #4 on 16 March (DL, ASK); 18 on Freeman Lake 17 March (BP); 22 on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 1 April (JSo); and a tardy male at Melco 9-14 May (EH<sub>u</sub>, BP, et al.).

**Lesser Scaup** – peak counts of interest included 130+ on Cave Run Lake 1 March (BW<sub>u</sub>); 107 on Owsley Fork Lake 5 March (RBa, RF); 100+ on the Ohio River downstream from Warsaw 6 March (BP); 130 on Lake Linville 8 March (JSo, CS); 115 on McElroy Lake 15 March (BP, JSo); 63 on Lexington Reservoir #4 on 16 March (DL, ASK); 150 on the Ohio River near the mouth of Landing Creek, *Boone*, 22 March (LM); and 255 at Kuttawa 8 April (JSo).



**Surf Scoter** – there were five reports: an ad. male continued on the Ohio River at Louisville to 7 March (SW) with probably the same bird upstream on the Ohio River off Charlestown, IN, *Oldham*, 21 March (TB, CBe); 3 at a different location on the Ohio River at Louisville 6 March (JSo); an ad. male on the Ohio River ca. 5 miles upstream from Maysville, *Mason*, 6 March (JBr); 6 on Ky Lake above the dam 21 April (BP); and an ad. male on the Ohio River at Louisville 25 April (BY, ph. MY).

**White-winged Scoter** – flocks continued at several locales from late winter, although numbers diminished relatively quickly during March. A summary of reports follows: 9 on the Ohio River at Greenup, *Greenup*, 2 March with 2 still there 8 March (CT); 54 total still on the Ohio River at Louisville 5 March (BP) with 29 still there 9/10 March (EHu/JBa), 5 still there 2 April (DSt), and 1 last seen there 6 April (SD); 48 on the Ohio River from Markland Dam to Craig's Creek 5 March

Ohio River at Craig's Creek 7 March (GD); 4 on Lake Peewee 7 March (JSo); 5 on Lake Linville 8 March (RF, RBa, et al.); 2 on a quarry lake along the Snyder Freeway n. of Avoca, *Jefferson*, 10 March (GBe, BP); 71 on the Ohio River off Charlestown, IN, *Oldham*, 21 March (ph. TB, CBe); 1 on the Ohio River above Uniontown Dam, *Union*, 21 March (ph. CC); 1 on Upper Douglas Lake, Ft. Knox, *Hardin*, 21-22 March (ph. ML); 9 on Cave Run Lake 4 April (BWu); 1 on Ky Lake off the mouth of Big Bear Creek, *Marshall*, 21/22 April (BP/ph. BLi); and 5 on Lake Peewee 24 April (JSo).

**Long-tailed Duck** – peak numbers actually occurred during March with the following reports: 1 on Owsley Fork Lake 1-7 March (ph. RF, RBa, GBo); 7 on the Ohio River at Louisville 1 March (m. ob.) with 16 total there 4 March (JBe, PB, et al.), 25 total there 6 March (EHu et al.), peak counts of 31 & 32 there 16 & 19 March, respectively (DSt et al.), 13 there 27 March (DSt), and 4 last reported there 1



White-winged Scoters (nearly half of 61) w/ Greater Scaup, *Bracken*  
6 March 2014

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

(BP) with 40 still there 6 March (BP); 1 on the Ohio River above Meldahl Dam and a flock of 61 on the Ohio River upstream of Augusta, *Bracken*, both 6 March (ph. BP); a remarkable tally of 187 on the Ohio River between Maysville, *Mason*, and Vanceburg, *Lewis*, 6 March (JBr) with most [150+] between Manchester, OH, and Concord, *Lewis* (JBr); 6 on the

April (TB, CBe); 7 on the Ohio River at Warsaw and a female above Markland Dam, both 5 March (BP) with 11 and 1 at the same respective locales 6 March (BP); 1 on the Ohio River at Chilo, OH, *Bracken*, and 16 on the Ohio River upstream of the mouth of White Oak Creek, OH, *Bracken*, both 6 March (BP); 1 on Lake Victoria, *Scott*, 8-9 March (ph. LGl); 9 on

Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer*, 10 March (ph. EHu, BWo); 1 on Lake Luzerne, *Muhlenberg*, 11 March (S&TG); 6 on Lake Barkley s. of the US 68/KY 80 bridge, *Trigg*, 20 March (JBr); 1 on the Ohio River off Charlestown, IN, *Oldham*, 21 March (TB, CBe); and 5 on the Ohio River at Catlettsburg, *Boyd*, 1 April (CT).

**Bufflehead** – peak counts included 120 on Barren River Lake 15 March (BP); 98 on McElroy Lake 15 March (BP, JSo); and 375 at Kuttawa 8 April (JSo) that represented a new state one-day high count. A female near Dranes Lakes, *Hardin*, 1 May (BP, RL) was the latest to be reported.

**Common Goldeneye** – peak counts of interest included 40-50 still on the Ohio River from Markland Dam to Warsaw 5 March (BP) and 210+ on the Ohio River from Maysville, *Mason*, to Vanceburg, *Lewis*, 6 March (JBr). Two at Kuttawa 2 May (BP, RL) were the latest to be reported.

**Hooded Merganser** – a female was observed with 3 yg. at Caperton Swamp Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*, 19 April (MS).

**Common Merganser** – late winter numbers quickly diminished and most were gone by mid-March. Reports of interest included 22 on Owsley Fork Lake 1 March (RBa, RF); 15 on Cave Run Lake (BWu) and 7 still on the Reformatory Lake (BP), both 5 March; 200-250 total on the Ohio

River from Meldahl Dam to Ripley, OH, *Mason*, 6 March (BP); 8 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 13 March (BP, EHu, MY); and a female last seen on Lake Peewee 24 April (JSo).

**Red-breasted Merganser** – peak counts of interest included 67 on Cave Run Lake 1 March (BWu) with 82 there 5 March (BWu); at least 75 on the Ohio River from Meldahl Dam to Ripley, OH, *Mason*, 6 March (BP); and 16 on Freeman Lake 17 March (BP). Two still at Kuttawa 2 May (BP, RL); 9 on Cave Run Lake 7 May (BWu); and 2 on Ky Lake above the dam 10 May (BP, MS) were the latest to be reported.

**Ruddy Duck** – modest peak counts included 60 on Lexington Reservoirs #2 & #3 on 9 March (RO) and 55 on Barren River Lake 15 March (BP). One at Flemingsburg 4 May (BWu) was relatively tardy.

**Red-throated Loon** – there were three reports: 1 on Lexington Reservoir #3 on 7 March (ph. RO) with probably a different bird there 10 March (ph. JL); and 1 on Barren River Lake 28 March (†JBy, MBy). KBRC review required.

**Common Loon** – 55-60 on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, 21 April (BP) represented a modest peak count for the season; singles at Ky Dam Village 13 May (AM) and on Barren River Lake 14 May (BP) were the latest to be reported.



Red-necked Grebes (9 of 10), *Jefferson*  
10 March 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



**Pied-billed Grebe** – 110 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 13 March (BP, EHu, MY) and 100+ on Barren River Lake 15 March (BP, JSo) represented peak counts for the season.

**Horned Grebe** – reports of interest included 149 on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 13 March (BP, EHu, MY) with 110 still there 6 April (JSo); 125+ on Barren River Lake 15 March (BP, JSo) with 85 still there 28 March (MBy, JBy); 22 on Lexington Reservoir #4 on 16 March (DL, ASK); and ca. 15 on McElroy Lake 15 March (BP, JSo). Tardy birds included 1 at Hays Kennedy Park, *Jefferson*, 2 May (ph. JBa) and 3 on Ky Lake above the dam 10 May (BP, MS).

**Red-necked Grebe** – an unprecedented flight occurred during the first week or so of March; see the Field Note on p. 78 for complete details.

**Double-crested Cormorant** – ca. 1000 were at the heronry at Kuttawa (with several dozen nests active) 21 April (BP); ca. 1500 were present at the heronry on Lake Barkley s. of US 68/KY 80, *Trigg*, 26 May (HC et al.).

**American White Pelican** – reports of interest included 21 at Swan Lake, *Ballard*, 2 April (JSo); 4 over Ellis Park, *Henderson*, 5 April (MY, BY, MS, CBs, BP); 3 over West Franklin Road, *Henderson*, 5 April (MY et al.); 66 on Open Pond 21 April (BP); 100+ still on Lake Barkley above the dam 21 April (BP); 2 at Kuttawa and 35-40 on Lake Barkley above the dam both 2 May (BP, RL); 106 still below Barkley Dam 13 May (AM); and 1 near Horseshoe Road 25 May (ph. CC).

**American Bittern** – there were six reports: 1 along KY 268 e. of Sauerheber 5 April (ph. CC); 1 nw. of Powderly 12 April (ph. S&TG); an impressive tally of 5 seen/heard at Clear Creek WMA 17 April (JY); 1 along Duckbill Road, Green River WMA, *Adair*, 19 April (RD); 1 at West Ky WMA, *McCracken*, 28 April (SR); and 1 adjacent to the n. end of the Grassy Pond-Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 29 April (KM).

**Least Bittern** – there were reports from five locales: 1 at Adkins Swamp 16 April (JY) with 3-4 there 17-26 May (HC, S&TG, JY); 5 heard at Clear Creek WMA 17 April (JY) with 2 seen/heard there 2 May (JY) and 4 heard there 20 May (JY); 1 heard at White City WMA 17 April (JY); 1 heard at Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber, 22 April/12 May (CP); and 2 heard at the Ken Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*, 24 May (RD).

**Great Blue Heron** – 17 nests were counted on a ridge above Green River Lake nw. of Holmes Bend boat dock, *Adair*, 13 March (MY, BP, EHu) with at least 10 counted on a ridge above the lake sw. of Smith Ridge, *Taylor* 13 March (BP, MY, EHu).

**Great Egret** – 1 at Long Point 21 March (HC, ME); 1/2 at Minor Clark 23/26 March (BWu); and 1 at the mouth of the Little Sandy River, *Greenup*, 30 March (CT) were the earliest to be reported. Circa 35 were at the heronry at Kuttawa 21 April (BP); probably at least 5 pairs were seen coming from and going to nests on Shippingport Island, *Jefferson*, 24/29 April (BLe/BP); up to 20 were at Melco during May (m. ob.).

**Snowy Egret** – a few were seen at the heronry at Kuttawa 21 April (BP); also reported were a fly-by at the Falls of the Ohio 25 April (MY); 1 at Melco 12 May into June (BP et al.); and 1 at Sauerheber 20 May (CC).

**Little Blue Heron** – 1 at Sauerheber 18 May (JMg) was the only one reported away from w. Kentucky; at least 15 were seen at the heronry on Lake Barkley s. of US 68/KY 80, *Trigg*, 26 May (HC et al.).

**Cattle Egret** – ca. 100 were at the heronry at Kuttawa 21 April (BP); there were three reports away from the LBL vicinity: 1 at Fox Chase Pond, *Wayne*, 30 April (ph. RD); 1 at Melco 9 May (ph. BP et al.); and 1 near Dot, s. *Logan*, 9 May (ph. FL).

**Green Heron** – singles at A.J. Jolly Park, *Campbell* (LB et al.), and at Minor Clark (BWu), both 2 April, were the earliest to be reported.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** – there were reports from three locales: 6 (3 pairs on nests) at Jenny Hole-Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union*, 18 April through May (ph. CC); at least 2 along Cypress Creek, *Marshall*, 2 May (BY, MY); and 1 at Clarks River NWR e. of Benton, *Marshall*, 27/31 May (HC/JPI).



Yellow-crowned Night-Herons at nest  
*Union*, 18 April 2014  
Charlie Crawford

**Black Vulture** – 125 at the Pfeiffer Fish Hatchery, *Franklin*, 2 April (BDe) represented the peak count for the season.

**Osprey** – 1 over the Berea College Forest 24 May (SM) may have been a tardy migrant as it was not near known nesting areas.

**Mississippi Kite** – birds returned to last year's nesting area at St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, by 11 May (MCo et al.) continuing into June. Other reports of interest included 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 4 May (MBy, JBy); 1 at Big Rivers WMA, *Crittenden*, 8 May (SH); 1 in LBL, *Trigg*, 17 May (ph. BLi); 1 at Central City, *Muhlenberg*, 17-18 May (SN); nest-building activity noted at Dawson Springs, *Hopkins*, during the third week of May (ERa); and 1 over Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, 23 May (MMo).

**Northern Harrier** – a male was observed at the Eastpark Industrial Park 8 May (JDu, BP, et al.).

**Broad-winged Hawk** – 1 over Pulaski County Park 8 April (RD), 2 near Cub Run, *Hart*, 9 April (SK, JK), and 1 over

Morehead 10 April (BWu) were the earliest to be reported.

**Golden Eagle** – there were nine reports: a presumed ad. over I-71 nw. of Crestwood, *Oldham*, 1 March (BDa, LN); 1 over the Ohio River at Wilson Bottom, *Lewis*, 6 March (JBr); 1 last seen at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt/Nelson*, 25 March (KV); a juv. over the Beaver Creek Wetlands above Cave Run Lake, *Menifee*, 26 March (ph. BWu); a juv. over the Renfro Valley Campground, *Rockcastle*, 27 March (†RD, AM, GH); a juv. over Little Lick 28 March (†RD); a juv. over Sauerheber 5 April (ph. MY, BY); a juv. se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 19 April (MBy, JBy); and a transmitted bird tracked to the Beaver Creek embayment of Lake Cumberland, *Wayne*, 23 April (SS).

**Virginia Rail** – there were six reports: 1 at Spindletop Farm 27 March (ph. DP); 1 nw. of Powderly 10 April (ph. S&TG); 3 heard at White City WMA 17 April (JY); 1 at Mt. Washington, *Bullitt*, 22 April (KA *fide* DCo); 1 at the Sinclair Unit 7 May (ph. S&TG); and 2 at Adkins Swamp 26 May (S&TG).

**Sora** – reports of interest included 2 at Spindletop Farm 28 March (MTo, CF) with singles still there 4/30 April (MTo, AX/DL); 1 at Draut Park, Louisville, 8 April (ph. JuB); at least 12 at Sauerheber 13 April (BP, BBC); 10 heard at Adkins Swamp 16 April (JY); 17 heard at Clear Creek WMA 17 April with 22 seen/heard there 2 May (JY); 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 25 April (MBy, JBy); at least 6 at Long Point 10 May (MS, BP); and 8 nw. of Powderly 20 April (S&TG) with 6 still there 3/6 May (S&TG) and 1 lingering there to 23 May (S&TG).

**Common Gallinule** – there was only one report: 1 nw. of Powderly 20 May (S&TG).

**Purple Gallinule** – 1 was present on a small pond along Red Barn Road, several mi. s. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 10-13 May (†MBy, JBy, MkB, MrB). KBRC review required.

**American Coot** – 1500 at Adkins Swamp 30 March (S&TG) and 2000 at Sauer-



heber 5 April (KM) represented the season's peak counts. One at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 24 May (BrJ) and 4 at Adkins Swamp 26 May (S&TG) were the latest to be reported.

**Sandhill Crane** – a few thousand were still in the vicinity of Cecilia 1 March (BP, AC) but numbers diminished very rapidly thereafter; reports of interest included 85 still in the Pond River Bottoms 7 March (JSo); 93 still at Dranes Lakes, *Hardin*, 18 March (CE); and 2 at the Beaver Creek Wetlands above Cave Run Lake, *Menifee*, 12 April (BWu).

**Black-necked Stilt** – 1 ne. of Long Point 5 April (HC, ME) and 3 at Long Point 10 April (EL, LGi) were the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 2 at Sauerheber 13 April (BP, BBC); 8 total in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 21 April (BP) with 29 total (groups of 2-8) in the same area 10 May (BP, MS, BY, MY) and one to a few remaining at scattered locales there into mid-May (m. ob.); and 2 at the Grassy Pond-Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 23 April (ph. JSo, CP).

**American Avocet** – there were three reports: 9 at the Falls of the Ohio with an additional 58 on the Ohio River upstream from the Falls of the Ohio, all 25 April (BY, ph. MY, et al.) that represented a new state high count; 1 at Freeman Lake 25 April (ph. BP, ph. BWu); and 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 27-28 April (BP et al.).

**American Golden-Plover** – 3 at McElroy Lake 9 March (BDa, BP, RL) and 9 there 12 March (TD) were the earliest to be reported. Other reports of interest included 80 at McElroy Lake (TD) and 4 at Parsons Pond (ph. FL), both 28 March; 5 near Horseshoe Road 5 April (CC); at least 380 in the Pond Creek Bottoms 9 April (BP, EHu); 1 at Minor Clark 11 April (ph. BWu) that was unusual for the e. part of the state during spring; a new state high count of at least 1285 counted adjacent to Obion WMA 20 April (BP) with only 100-150 there 21 April (BP); and 75-100 in the vicinity of Open Pond 21 April (BP).

**Black-bellied Plover** – there was only one report: 6 adjacent to Obion WMA 10 May (BP, MS, BY, MY).

**Semipalmated Plover** – 2 w. of Miller, *Fulton*, and 35 n. of Long Point, both 21 April (BP) were the earliest to be reported; modest peak counts included 80 along KY 268 nw. of Sauerheber 18 May (JMg) and 52 at Melco 20 May (EHu, JH).

**Spotted Sandpiper** – 1 at Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 5 April (JSo, CS) was the earliest to be reported; singles at Fox Chase Pond, *Wayne*, 27 May (RD), at Cedar Creek Lake 28 May (RF), at Pump-house Pond, *Pulaski*, 30 May (RD), and at Surrey Hills Farm 31 May (BP) were the latest to be reported.

**Solitary Sandpiper** – singles at Surrey Hills Farm 2 April (BP) and at LBL, *Trigg*, 4 April (BLi) were the earliest to be reported.

**Greater Yellowlegs** – 3 along J. Dance Road 1 March (CC, BP, et al.) were the earliest to be reported. Peak counts of interest included 120 at and near Long Point 28 March (HC, ME) with 65 at Long Point 22 April (RD); 100+ in w. *Henderson* 5 April (BP et al.) with 125+ there 13 April (BP, BBC); 100+ in the Pond Creek Bottoms 9 April (BP, EHu); and 60 in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 20 April (BP). One at Melco 23 May (BP) was the latest to be reported.

**Willet** – there were six reports: 10 along Chamberlain Lane, ne. *Jefferson* (JBe, PB, et al.), and 29 at the Falls of the Ohio (BP et al.), both 25 April; 1 at Minor Clark 30 April (ph. BWu); 1 at Chaney Lake (BF) and at least 27 at Lake Linville (ph. CH, ph. NoH), both 1 May; and 3 at the dam at Cave Run Lake, *Bath*, 7 May (TS, ph. BWu).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** – peak counts of interest included 125+ in w. *Henderson* 5 April (BP et al.) with 375+ there 13 April (BP, BBC); ca. 140 at and near Long Point 5 April (HC, ME); 75+ in the Pond Creek Bottoms 9 April (BP, EHu); 500+ in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 20 April (BP); 300 at Long Point 22 April (RD); 70 at

Sauerheber 23 April (KM) with 100 there 27 April/2 May (CC), 300 there 3 May (CC), and 350 there 4 May (CC); 63 at Cave Lake 30 April (RD); 58 w. of Cecilia 1 May (BP, RL); 77 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 1 May (MBy, JBy); and 70 at Melco 6 May (BP, MS). Two at the Grassy Pond-Powells Lake Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson* (CC) and 1 at Melco (JBa), both 25 May, were the latest to be reported.

**Upland Sandpiper** – there was only one report: 2 along the West Somerset Bypass 4 May (ph. RD).

**Ruddy Turnstone** – there was only one report: 2 at Melco 14 May (BP et al.).

**Stilt Sandpiper** – there were only five reports: a very early bird at Mud Creek 28 March (HC, ME); 6 at Chaney Lake 1 May (BF); 10 at Sauerheber 4 May (BY, MY); 11 at Long Point 10 May (BY, MY, MS, BP); and 1 at Melco 12-14 May (BP et al.).

**Dunlin** – reports of interest included small numbers at Sauerheber 19 April–20 May (CC) with a very modest peak count of only 10 there 4 May (CC); 6 e. of Long Point 22 April (RD); 2 at Melco 20-23 May (BP, EHu et al.); and at least 52 along Alzey-Uniontown Road, w. *Henderson*, 25 May (JMg).

**Sanderling** – the only report was of 1 on the sandbar downstream from Middle Bar, *Hickman*, 29 May (JBr).

**Baird's Sandpiper** – there were two reports: 1 at Parson's Pond 26 March (ph. FL) that represented a new early date for the state, and 2 there 31 March (ph. FL).

**Least Sandpiper** – 1 at Parsons Pond 12 March (ph. FL) was a very early migrant; peak counts for the season included 100+ at Mud Creek 8 May (HC, ME); 85 at Melco 18 May (BP); and a remarkably late high count of 105 at Obion WMA 30 May (†ME, HC).

**White-rumped Sandpiper** – 1 along the West Somerset Bypass (RD), 1 at Cave Lake (RD), 3 in *Anderson* (TA); and 3 w. of Cecilia (BP, RL), all 1 May, were the earliest to be reported; other reports of in-

terest included 3 at Parsons Pond 2 May (ph. FL) with 1 there 6 May (FL); 2 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 2 May, with 12 there 15 May (MBy, JBy); 1 at Minor Clark 3 May (ph. BWu); 6 along the West Somerset Bypass 4 May (RD); and singles at Melco 3-4 & 17-20 May (BP, EHu, et al.) with a peak count of 8 there 9 May (EHu et al.).

**Pectoral Sandpiper** – 5 at McElroy Lake 7 March (TD); 9 at Chaney Lake 9 March (BP, RL, BDa); and 3 at Parsons Pond 12 March (FL) were the earliest to be reported. Peak counts of interest included 150+ at McElroy Lake 21/26 March (TD); 400 at Sauerheber 23 March (JMg) with 1000 there 19 April (vt. CC); 500+ in the Pond Creek Bottoms 9 April (BP, EHu); 450+ in the Upper Hickman Bottoms 20 April (BP); and an impressive tally of 2000 at the w. end of Blue Pond, *Fulton*, 22 April (RD).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** – 1 at Parsons Pond (ph. FL) and 2 at Minor Clark (ph. BWu), both 30 April, and 1 along John Gover Lane, Bronston, *Pulaski*, 1 May (RD) were the earliest to be reported. Modest peak counts included most of 75-100 peeps at Melco 14-15 May (BP) with 310 there 20 May (BP), 150 there 21 May (BP, RF, RBa), and 100 there 23 May (BP).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** – a relatively early bird was seen and heard calling n. of Long Point 21 April (ph. BP). Also reported were 8 at Sauerheber 4 May (CC); 6 along the West Somerset Bypass 4 May (RD); 4 at Parsons Pond 5 May (ph. FL); 6 at Melco 5 May (EHu) with 1 there 14 May (BDa); ca. 12 at Chaney Lake 8 May (BF); and 19 total (7 + 12) at and near Long Point, respectively, 10 May (BY, MY, BP, MS).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** – reports of interest included 3 at Long Point 19 April (HC); 2 at Sauerheber 19 April (CC) with 1 there 21 April (CC); 2 at the w. end of Blue Pond, *Fulton*, 22 April (RD, JDe); 8 along John Gover Lane, Bronston, *Pulaski*, 30 April (ph. RD); 1 at Cave Lake 1 May (ph. RD); 2 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 2 May (MBy, JBy); 17 total at Long Point 3 May

(MY, BY); and 1 at Parsons Pond 5 May (ph. FL). A flock of 17 dowitcher sp. at Long Point 28 March (HC, ME) were probably Long-billed by date.

**Wilson's Snipe** – modest peak counts included 75 at Sauerheber 21 March (CC) and 110 at and near Long Point 28 March (HC, ME).

**Wilson's Phalarope** – there were six reports: 1 at Long Point 22 April (RD, JDe); 3 s. of Sassafras Ridge, *Fulton*, and 5 at Long Point, both 3 May (ph. MY, BY); 2 at Sauerheber 4 May (ph. CC); 11 at Melco 9 May (ph. EHu, et al.) with 6 still there 10 May (EHu); and 1 adjacent to Obion WMA 10 May (BY, MY).

**Bonaparte's Gull** – reports of interest included 200 still at Cave Run Lake 11 April (BWu); 30 still on Ky Lake above the dam 21 April (BP); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 25 April (BP et al.); and at least 40 on Lake Barkley above the dam 2 May (BP, RL).

**Laughing Gull** – there were two reports: an ad. at the Falls of the Ohio 28 April (DSt et al.) and an ad. at Ky Dam Village 10 May (BY, MY).

**Franklin's Gull** – there were two reports: a sub-ad. n. of Long Point 21 March (ph. HC); and 2 at Ky Dam Village 2/10 May (BY, MY).

**Ring-billed Gull** – reports of interest included at least 500 at Cedar Creek Lake 8 March (BP et al.); 350-400 at the Falls of the Ohio 7 March (BP); and 200-250 still at Ky Dam 2 May (BP et al.).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** – 2 ads. and a third-year bird were at Craig's Creek 5 March (ph. BP) with an ad. still there 7 March (EHu); an ad. or third-year bird was at the Falls of the Ohio 28 April (DSt, ph. AG); a few birds continued in the vicinity of Ky Dam into April with 2 (first-year and third-year) at Ky Dam Village 2 May (BP et al.) and a first-year bird last reported there 5 May (BLi).

**Herring Gull** – reports of interest included at least 110 at Craig's Creek 5 March (BP); 93 at the Falls of the Ohio 7 March

(BP) with 38 there 28 April (DSt); and 25-30 still at Ky Dam 2 May (BP et al.).

**Thayer's Gull** – there were two reports: an ad. at Craig's Creek 5 March (ph. BP) with possibly the same ad. at the Falls of the Ohio 7/8 March (†BP/MW).

**Least Tern** – 1 along Alzey-Uniontown Road, *Henderson*, 25 May (JMg) was the earliest to be reported; also of interest were 3 along Uniontown-Mt. Vernon Road, *Union*, 30 May (JSo).

**Caspian Tern** – 1 at Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 1 April (BLi) was the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 1 in the Pond Creek Bottoms 9 April (EHu, BP); a very modest peak count of 6 at the Falls of the Ohio 28 April (BDa et al.); 1 adjacent to Obion WMA 20 April (BP); and 2 at Melco 21 May (EHu et al.).

**Forster's Tern** – ca. 35 at Ky Dam Village 2 May (BP, RL) represented a very modest peak count for the season.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo** – 1 at Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*, 25 April (RD) was the earliest to be reported.

**Black-billed Cuckoo** – there were about a dozen reports: singles heard at Cherokee Park 28 April (RL, JBa) and 11 May (BDa, RBo); 1 heard at Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*, 29 April (RD); 1 seen at Beargrass Creek SNP, *Jefferson*, 30 April (MA); 1 heard at Craigmoor Estates, *Scott*, 2 May (DL); singles seen at the Lexington Cemetery (SPe, PG) and heard at McConnell Springs (SPe), both 5 May; 2 on the Anchorage Trail 6 May (JBe, PB); 1 heard at Asbury College, *Jessamine*, 7/11 May (SPe); 1 heard at Shaker Village 9 May (SPe et al.); and singles heard at LBL, *Trigg*, 9/12 May (BLi).

**Short-eared Owl** – there were reports from four locales: 5 at the former Camp #11 mine, *Union*, 1 March (BP, EHu); 2 at the Sinclair Unit 6/7 March (S&TG) with 1 last seen there 30 March (S&TG); 1 along Horseshoe Road, w. *Henderson*, 10 March (CC); and 3 at Sandy Watkins Park, *Henderson*, 15 March (KM) with 2 still there 28 March (CC).

**Common Nighthawk** – 1 at Morehead 28 April (BWu) was the earliest to be reported.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will** – singles at the Lexington Cemetery 5 April (SPa) and flushed during the day at Sally Brown Nature Preserve, *Garrard*, 8 April (AW) were the earliest to be reported.

**Chimney Swift** – 2 at Morehead, *Rowan*, 4 April (BWu) were the earliest to be reported.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** – 1 at Berea College Forest, *Madison*, 9 May (GBo, JPe) was quite tardy.

**Merlin** – there were at least eight reports: singles at McElroy Lake 6/12 March (TD); 1 at the Reformatory Lake 7 March (EHu); 1 at Schochoh, *Logan*, 20/23 March (ST); 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 5 April (MBy, JBy); 1 at Bowling Green, *Warren*, 6 April (TD); 2 at McConnell Springs 3 May (†I&DF); and 1 at Shaker Village 4/5 May (†NaH).

**Peregrine Falcon** – there were only two reports away from known nesting territories: 1 at Sauerheber 5 April (CC) and 1 at Middletown, *Jefferson*, 16 April (MY).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** – there were only two reports: 1 in e. *Calloway* 3 May (RH) and 1 at Cherokee Park 22 May (BP, RF, RBa).

**Least Flycatcher** – a relatively early bird was seen/heard singing at Long Point 21 April (ph. BP).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** – there were five reports: 1 heard calling at Surrey Hills Farm 19 May (BP); 1 at Berea College Forest, *Madison*, 20 May (RF, RBa); 2 at LBL, *Lyon*, 23 May (BLi); 1 at Cherokee Park 22 May (BP, RF, RBa); and 2 heard at the Homestead Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*, 24 May (vr. RD).

**Alder Flycatcher** – there were seven reports of singing birds: 1 at LBL, *Lyon*, 2 May (MY, BY); 1 at McConnell Springs 10 May (SPe); 2 at Sauerheber 18 May (JMg); 1 at Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, 19 May (MMo); singles at Green River State Forest, *Henderson* (CC), and at Surrey

Hills Farm (BP), both 23 May; and 1 at the Jenny Hole Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*, 25 May (JMg).

**Great Crested Flycatcher** – singles at Sauerheber 13 April (CC) and at LBL, *Trigg*, 16 April (BLi) were the earliest to be reported.

**Eastern Kingbird** – singles in *Trigg* 4 April (BLi) and near Dot, *Logan*, 8 April (ph. FL) were the earliest to be reported.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** – there were two reports: 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 22 April (ph. BLi); and 1 along Ezell Road, e. *Calloway*, 4 May (RH). No birds were seen at the 2013 *Webster* nesting locale this year (SN, CC).

**Loggerhead Shrike** – 3 were in farmland adjacent to Chaney Lake 26 April (BP, KOS).

**White-eyed Vireo** – 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 1 April (JSO) was the earliest to be reported.

**Bell's Vireo** – reports of interest included 1 at Sauerheber 2-3 May (ph. CC) with 2 there 4 May (KH) and 2 there and 1 just nw. of Sauerheber 18/25 May (JMg); 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Christian*, 16 May (DMo); and 1 at Melco 19 May into June (ph. BP et al.).

**Yellow-throated Vireo** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 3 April (MBy); 1 at the Alpine Rec. Area, DBNF, *Pulaski*, 5 April (RD); and 2 at LBL, *Trigg*, 6 April (BLi) were the earliest to be reported.

**Philadelphia Vireo** – 2 at Mammoth Cave 26 April (DL) were the earliest to be reported.

**Red-eyed Vireo** – 1 at the Alpine Rec. Area, DBNF, *Pulaski*, 5 April (RD) was the earliest to be reported.

**Fish Crow** – reports of interest included calls heard (2-3 likely birds seen) in the Pond Creek Bottoms 9 April (BP, EHu) that represents a first for *Hopkins*; 2 at Kuttawa 30 March (B&JMr) with 1 there 21 April (RD); and 1-2 at the LBL Nature Station on several dates 30 March–17 May (JPt, B&JMr).

**Common Raven** – 2 at Buckhorn Lake Dam, *Perry*, during mid-March (SB) and



3 at the Knott County Sportsplex 29 May (RD) were not near known nesting locations.

**Bank Swallow** – 1 at Minor Clark 11 April (BWu) was the earliest to be reported.

**Barn Swallow** – singles at Pine Mt. SRP, *Bell*, 21 March (RD) and near Dot, *Logan*, 24 March (FL) were the earliest to be reported.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** – following a dismal showing during the winter season, a few likely winter residents continued to be reported through March; only the slightest presence of migrants was noted with 1 at Craigmoor Estates, *Scott*, 1 May (DL) and 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 1 May (ALo, IH) and 2 there 4 May (TN, RO) being the latest to be reported. Also reported was a bird at the Rock Bridge, DBNF, *Wolfe*, nesting area 31 May (SPa).

**Brown-headed Nuthatch** – birds continued at the nesting area at Ky Dam Village through the season (m. ob.) with excavation of a presumed nesting cavity noted there 5 May (FR).



Brown-hd. Nuthatch at presumed nest cavity  
*Marshall*, 5 May 2014  
Frank Renfrow

**Brown Creeper** – a bird was observed carrying food and singing on the Rock Bridge trail, DBNF, *Wolfe*, 7 May (BP, AC, EL) with a bird seen and again heard singing nearby 8 May (BP, JDu, et al.). Also of interest was a report of 1 at Buckhorn Lake State Park, *Perry*, 22 April (CE) with 2 there the following day (CE).

**House Wren** – 1 at Shaker Village 1 March (†SPe) was possibly overwintering or a very early migrant.

**Winter Wren** – there were several reports of tardy birds: 1 at Pope Lick Park 24 April (JBe) and 1 at Boone County Cliffs SNP, *Boone*, 27 April (LO) with another or the same reported there 3 May (ERi, †R&TF, †B&RM).

**Sedge Wren** – there were three reports: 1 seen at Surrey Hills Farm 12 April (BP); 1 heard at the Sinclair Unit 7 May (S&TG); and 1 heard at the Long Creek Refuge, LBL, *Trigg*, 12 May (BLi).

**Marsh Wren** – there were reports from three locales: 2 at Adkins Swamp 17/20 April (HC, RD/S&TG); 1 at Spindletop Farm 2 May (ph. TN); and 1 heard at Long Point 3 May (MY, BY).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** – 1-3 at six different locales 1 April (eBird data; m. ob.) were the earliest to be reported.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** – singles at Bel-larmine University, Louisville (SW) and at Cave Hill Cemetery (BoJ, DSw, BBC), both 26 April, were the latest to be reported.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** – 1 at Lexington 14 May (DCh) was the latest to be reported.

**Eastern Bluebird** – spring inspections of nest boxes yielded confirmation that the extended period of cold weather resulted in some significant mortality in LBL (RP), at Lake Barkley SRP, *Trigg* (RP), and in *Oldham* (MCr).

**Veery** – 1 at Cherokee Park 24 May (BY, MY) was the latest to be reported away from nesting areas.

**Hermit Thrush** – 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 15 May (†DL) was very tardy.

**Gray Catbird** – 1 at Ft. Thomas, *Campbell*, 30 March (FR) was remarkably early.

**American Pipit** – 26 at Sauerheber 4 May (ph. CC); and 30 at Parsons Pond 6 May (FL) represented relatively tardy flocks.

**Cedar Waxwing** – the species remained very scarce until the middle of the first week of May, when flocks appeared state-wide.

**Ovenbird** – singles at Mammoth Cave (SK, JK) and at Rodburn Park, *Rowan* (BWu),

both 11 April, were the earliest to be reported.

**Worm-eating Warbler** – singles at the Lexington Cemetery 9 April (C&GT) and at Mammoth Cave 11 April (SK, JK) were the earliest to be reported. A nest was observed under construction at Mammoth Cave 17 May (†KO).

**Northern Waterthrush** – 1 sw. of Greenville, *Muhlenberg*, 9 April (S&TG) was very early.

**Blue-winged Warbler** – 2 at Mammoth Cave (JBe, PB) and 1 near Raven's Rock, DBNF, *Powell* (JMi), both 13 April, were the earliest to be reported.

**Golden-winged Warbler** – 1 at Pope Lick Park 30 April (JBe, PB) was the earliest to be reported; the species was well-represented during the first week of May but only in the western portion of the state (no reports e. of Louisville?), with reports of 1-4 birds at several locales in LBL, *Lyon/Trigg*, and in *Henderson* (eBird data; m. ob.); 10 total (4 at Ky Dam Village and 6 at LBL, *Lyon*), all 2 May (BP et al.) matched the state's one-day high count.

**Blue-winged x Golden-winged Warbler** – there were two reports of hybrids: a Brewster's Warbler along White Oak Creek, *Rockcastle*, 27 April (MTa, ET) and a likely back-cross hybrid at the Lexington Cemetery 4 May (ph. RO).

**Black-and-white Warbler** – 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 28 March (BLi) was the earliest to be reported.

**Swainson's Warbler** – reports of interest included 2 along Big Caney Creek/Binion Ford Road, *Elliott*, 2 May (BWu, MMi); singles at Laurel Gorge WMA, *Elliott*, 2/20 May (BWu, MMi/BWu); 5 in the Red River Gorge Geological Area, *Wolfe*, 7 May (BP, AC, EL); and 1 heard at Obion WMA 30 May (HC, ME).

**Tennessee Warbler** – 1 at Cherokee Park 18 April (JBe, PB) was the earliest to be reported.

**Nashville Warbler** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 12 April (MBy) was the earliest to be reported.

**Orange-crowned Warbler** – the species was not as numerous as last spring; 1 at Pope Lick Park 5 April (RL) and singles at Blood River (HC) and at LBL, *Trigg* (BLi), both 15 April, were the earliest to be reported. Singles at Surrey Hills Farm 4 May (BP, MS), at Joe Creason Park, Louisville, 5 May (BWo), and at Doe Run Lake Park, *Kenton*, 9 May (DMa) were the latest to be reported; singles were also reported at nearly a dozen locales during the latter half of April (eBird data, m. ob.).

**Connecticut Warbler** – there were reports from two locales: 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 22 May (MTo) and singles heard/seen at Cherokee Park 22-24 May (BP, RL, CBs, et al.).

**Mourning Warbler** – 1 at Pope Lick Park 30 April (JBe, PB) was a bit early with perhaps the same bird seen again 4 May (JBe, PB, et al.); also reported were singles at Beargrass Creek SNP 3 May (BWo); at LBL, *Trigg*, 10 May (BLi); at Surrey Hills Farm 19 May (BP); at Owensboro, *Daviess* (MK), and at Sauerheber (CC), both 20 May; at Cherokee Park 22-23 May (BP, RL, et al.) with 2 there 24 May (BY, MY); at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 23 May (RD); and at Blood River 25 May (HC).

**Common Yellowthroat** – 2 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 6 April (RD) and 1 at Pumphouse Pond, *Pulaski*, 7 April (RD) were the earliest to be reported.

**Hooded Warbler** – 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 11 April (BLi) was the earliest to be reported.

**American Redstart** – singles at the LBL Nature Station 15 April (JPt) and along Whitaker Cemetery Road, *Pulaski*, 18 April (RD) were the earliest to be reported.

**Cape May Warbler** – 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 25 April (RO) and at least 3 at Mammoth Cave 26 April (TD, KOS) were the earliest to be reported.

**Cerulean Warbler** – 1 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 13 April (MBy) was the earliest to be reported.

**Northern Parula** – a tally of 40 se. of Mt. Zion, *Allen*, 13 April (MBy) was impressive.

**Blackburnian Warbler** – 1 on the Anchorage Trail 18 April (ph. AM) was the earliest to be reported.

**Yellow Warbler** – 1 at the end of Figett Bend Road, *Hart*, 10 April (JSo) was the earliest to be reported.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** – reports of interest included 1 at Fleming County WMA 4 May (BWu); 1 at Beargrass Creek SNP, *Jefferson*, 5 May (DSw et al.); 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 9 May (RO); and 1 at McConnell Springs 10 May (SPe).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** – singles at two locales in Lexington 15 May (DCh & DL); at Bernheim Forest 18 May (NB); and at Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*, 19 May (RD) were the latest to be reported.

**Prairie Warbler** – 1 at Mammoth Cave 11 April (SK, JK) was the earliest to be reported.

**Canada Warbler** – 1 at LBL, *Lyon*, 2 May (JBe et al.) was the earliest to be reported.

**Wilson's Warbler** – 1 at Berea, *Madison*, 1 May (RF, RBa) was the earliest to be reported.

**Yellow-breasted Chat** – 1 at Green River WMA, *Adair*, 19 April (RD) was the earliest to be reported.

**American Tree Sparrow** – 2 at the Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union*, 30 March (KM) and 1 se. of Stanford, *Lincoln* to 2 April (ph. JE) were the latest to be reported.

**Vesper Sparrow** – 1 at the end of Figett Bend Road, *Hart*, 16 March (JSo) was the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included 10 along Henry Oates Road, *Muhlenberg*, 29 April (S&TG); 2 at Little Lick 1 April (ph. RD); 1-3 at Minor Clark 2-20 April (BWu, SPe); 10-12 total in w. *Henderson* 5 April (BP et al.); 3 along Frostburg Road, *Hopkins*, 9 April (BP, EHu); and 1 at the Ky Dam Village marina 20 April (BP).

**Lark Sparrow** – there were reports from four locales: 1-4 along McDonald Landing Road, *Henderson*, 14 April–30 May (ph. CC et al.); 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 24 April (DMo) with a pair at a different location there 16 May (DMo); 3 along Vance Road, *Warren*, 26 April (BP, KOS); and 1 n. of Murray, *Calloway*, 3 May (MMr).

**Henslow's Sparrow** – 2 at Surrey Hills Farm 12/16 April (ph. BP) were the earliest to be reported; other reports of interest included at least 4 at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary, *Fayette*, 30 April (JSw); 1 at the LBL Elk-Bison Prairie, *Trigg*, 17 May (BLi); up to 14 at the Bluegrass Army Depot, *Madison*, 11-12 May (TE, CL, et al.); and up to 14 at the Eastpark Industrial Park 7-26 May (BP, PD, VS, et al.).

**Fox Sparrow** – 1 at Sauerheber 9 April (CC) was the latest to be reported.

**Lincoln's Sparrow** – singles at Sauerheber 14/17 April (ph. CC) were the earliest to be reported.

**Swamp Sparrow** – 1 at Sauerheber 12 May (CC) was the latest to be reported.

**White-throated Sparrow** – 1 at the Lexington Cemetery 15 May (DL) was the latest to be reported.

**Dark-eyed Junco** – 1 at Catlettsburg, *Boyd*, 25 April (CT) was the latest to be reported.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – singles at Murray, *Calloway* (ME) and at LBL, *Trigg* (BLi), both 15 April, were the earliest to be reported; 1 at Ft. Mitchell, *Kenton*, 22 May (DN) was the latest to be reported away from nesting areas.

**Blue Grosbeak** – singles at Schochoh, *Logan*, 11 April (ST) and at LBL, *Trigg*, 14 April (BLi) were the earliest to be reported.

**Indigo Bunting** – singles in *Trigg* (ph. BLi) and just sw. of Somerset, *Pulaski* (RD), both 4 April, were unusually early.

**Dickcissel** – 1 was at Eastpark Industrial Park 7-11 May (BP, JDu, EHa, EP, et al.) with 3 there 24 May (PD).



**Bobolink** – reports of interest included 35-40 at the WKU Farm, *Warren*, 26 April (BP, KOS); ca. 10 along Weaver Ridge Road, *Rowan*, 29 April (SF) with 40 there 30 April (BWu) and 7 still there 4 May (VS); 6 at Fox Chase Pond, *Wayne*, 30 April (RD); ca. 825 total along the levee in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 3 May (BY, MY); 13 s. of Flemingsburg, *Fleming*, 3 May (GW); 1 at the Eastpark Industrial Park 7 May (BP, AC) with 3 there 8 May (BP, JDu, et al.); 145 in the Lower Hickman Bottoms 8 May (HC, ME); 5 along Squib-Ano Road, *Pulaski*, 10 May (RD); and singles at Surrey Hills Farm 21/24 May (BP).

**Rusty Blackbird** – reports of interest included ca. 20 at South Williamson, *Pike*, 6 March (JC, LE); 2 at the Beaver Creek Wetlands above Cave Run Lake, *Menifee*, 26 March (BWu) with 9 there 30 March (BWu) and 4 there 12 April (BWu); 250 at Sugar Slough, *Henderson*, 27 March (KM); 5 at Minor Clark 2 April (BWu); 3 at Shallow Flats, Cave Run Lake, *Rowan*,

2 April (BWu) with 1 last seen there 1 May (BWu); and 1 last seen at Sauerheber 2 May (ph. CC).

**Brewer's Blackbird** – there were five reports: 2 females at Joe Creason Park, Louisville, 12 March (†SW); 19 along Holmes Bend Road s. of Green River Lake, *Adair*, 3 April (ph. RD); at least 35 along Pack Church Road near Bell Road, *McLean*, 5 April (BP, EHu); at least 60 along Frostburg Road, *Hopkins*, 9 April (BP, EHu); and a female at McElroy Lake 12 April (RD).

**Purple Finch** – very small numbers lingered from the winter season with a few likely migrants noted at several scattered locales during April.

**Pine Siskin** – after a near complete absence during the winter season, there were a few reports of likely migrants as follows: singles at Douglass Hills, *Jefferson*, 10/15 April (ph. MY/ph. MY) and singles at Berea, *Madison*, 18/22 April (RF, RBa) and 3 May (GBo).

**Observers:** Terry Anderson (TA), Ken Ashby (KA), Audubon Society of Kentucky (ASK), Michael Autin (MA), Samantha Bachelder (SB), Jamie Baker (JBa), Rebecca Bates (RBa), Jamin Beachy (JBy), Makaya Beachy (MkB), Marena Beachy (MrB), Matthan Beachy (MBy), Giff Beaton (GBe), Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Colleen Craven-Becker (CBe), Tom Becker (TB), Jane Bell (JBe), Pat Bell (PB), Julie Berry (JuB), Carol Besse (CBs), Neal Bogan (NB), Gretchen Bolton (GBo), Rod Botkins (RBo), John Brunjes (JBr), Laura Bryant (LB), Joan Carr (JC), Hap Chambers (HC), Don Chesnut (DCh), Dona Coates (DCo), Marge Constan (MCo), Amy Covert (AC), Charlie Crawford (CC), Mary Howell Cromer (MCr), Melodie Cunningham (MCu), Brian Davis (BDa), Brenda Dean (BDe), Gene Dennis (GD), Julie Denton (JDe), Roseanna Denton (RD), Scott Dickman (SD), Paul Drescher (PD), Jon Dunn (JDu), Tom Durbin (TD), Melissa Easley (ME), Tom Edwards (TE), Jackie Elmore (JE), Les Estep (LE), Chris Eversen (CE), Blaine Ferrell (BF), Ian & Deanna Ferrell (I&DF), Rob & Tyler Ficker (R&TF), Caleb Fligor (CF), Robert Foster (RF), Scott Freidhof (SF), Loran Gibson (LGi), Linda Glass (LGI), Alan Goldstein (AG), Pamela Graber (PG), Steve & Teresa Graham (S&TG), Kate Hannah (KH), Scott Harp (SH), Ed Harper (EHa), Robert Head (RH), Gay Hodges (GH), Ian Horn (IH), Nancy Houlihan (NaH), Charles House (CH), Nora House (NoH), Eddie Huber (EHu), Jennifer Huber (JH), Bob Johnson (BoJ), Brian Johnson (BrJ), Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), Mary Kissel (MK), Janet Kistler (JK), Steve Kistler (SK), Rob Lane (RL), David Lang (DL), Ellis Lauder milk (EL), Marjorie Lehman (ML), Bryan Lewis (BL), Amy Lint (ALi), Bill Lisowsky (BLi), Chris Lituma (CL), Andrew Logsdon (ALo), Judy Lundquist (JL), Frank Lyne (FL), Scott Marsh (SM), Don Martin (DMa), Bill & Renee McGill (B&RM), Lee McNeely (LM), Bob & Jesse Meier (B&JMr), Andrew Melnykovich (AM), John Meredig (JMg), Keith Michalski (KM), Jessi Miller (JMi), Michael Miller (MMr), Mike Miller (MMi), Mark Monroe (MMo), Arlene Morton (AM), Daniel Moss (DMo), multiple observers (m. ob.), Tina Nauman (TN), Susan Neace (SN), Lauren Niemann (LN),



Dave Novitski (DN), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Linda Osterhage (LO), Ken Ostyn (KO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP), Ed Pandolfino (EP), Steve Pavey (SPa), Robert Peak (RP), Sydney Penner (SPe), Jennifer Perkins (JPe), Charlie Plush (CP), John Pollpeter (JPt), Joshua Powell (JPl), Dave Pritchard (DP), Ed Ray (ERa), Scott Record (SR), Frank Renfrow (FR), Ethan Rising (ERi), Vicki Sandage (VS), Tanner Shepard (TS), Carol Sole (CS), Jeff Sole (JSO), Scott Somershoe (SS), David Stewart (DSw), Matt Stickel (MS), Del Striegel (DSt), Joe Swanson (JSw), Ed Talbott (ET), Michelle Talbott (MTa), Charles Thompson (CT), Mark Tower (MTo), Charles & Gretchen Tremoulet (C&GT), Steve Tyson (ST), Kelly Vowels (KV), Major Waltman (MW), Sean Ward (SW), Andrew West (AW), Barbara Woerner (BWo), Brian Wulker (BWu), Gale Wulker (GW), Antonio Xeira (AX), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY), John Yeiser (JY).

## FIELD NOTES

### The March 2014 Flight of Red-necked Grebes

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

The winter of 2013-2014 was the coldest in the eastern United States in about a decade. While December was not much colder than normal, successive intrusions of abnormally cold weather during the months of January and February resulted in average monthly temperatures of 4-6°F below normal for those two months. The extremely cold weather resulted in an abnormally high degree of ice cover on the Great Lakes. During a normal winter, about 50% of the surface of the Great Lakes can freeze over (NASA 2014); however, by mid-February 2014, about 88% of the surface of the lakes was frozen, including almost all of Lake Erie, Lake Huron, and Lake Superior (NASA 2014). By the first week of March 2014, ice cover reached its maximum, with slightly more than 92% of the lakes covered in ice (Rodman 2014). The last to have most of its surface freeze up was Lake Ontario because of its depth.

As ice cover on the Great Lakes increased early in 2014, mortality of waterbirds began to occur, while a mass exodus of many that normally ride out the winter period on open water commenced. During January 2014, unprecedented numbers of White-winged Scoters (*Melanitta fusca*) showed up on bodies of water at inland locations in the eastern United States including Kentucky; most of the birds in Kentucky were found along the Ohio River corridor from Louisville upstream to Ashland. These flocks included many adult birds as opposed to the immatures normally seen in the state. Also present during late January and February were higher-than-normal numbers of several of the more common diving ducks

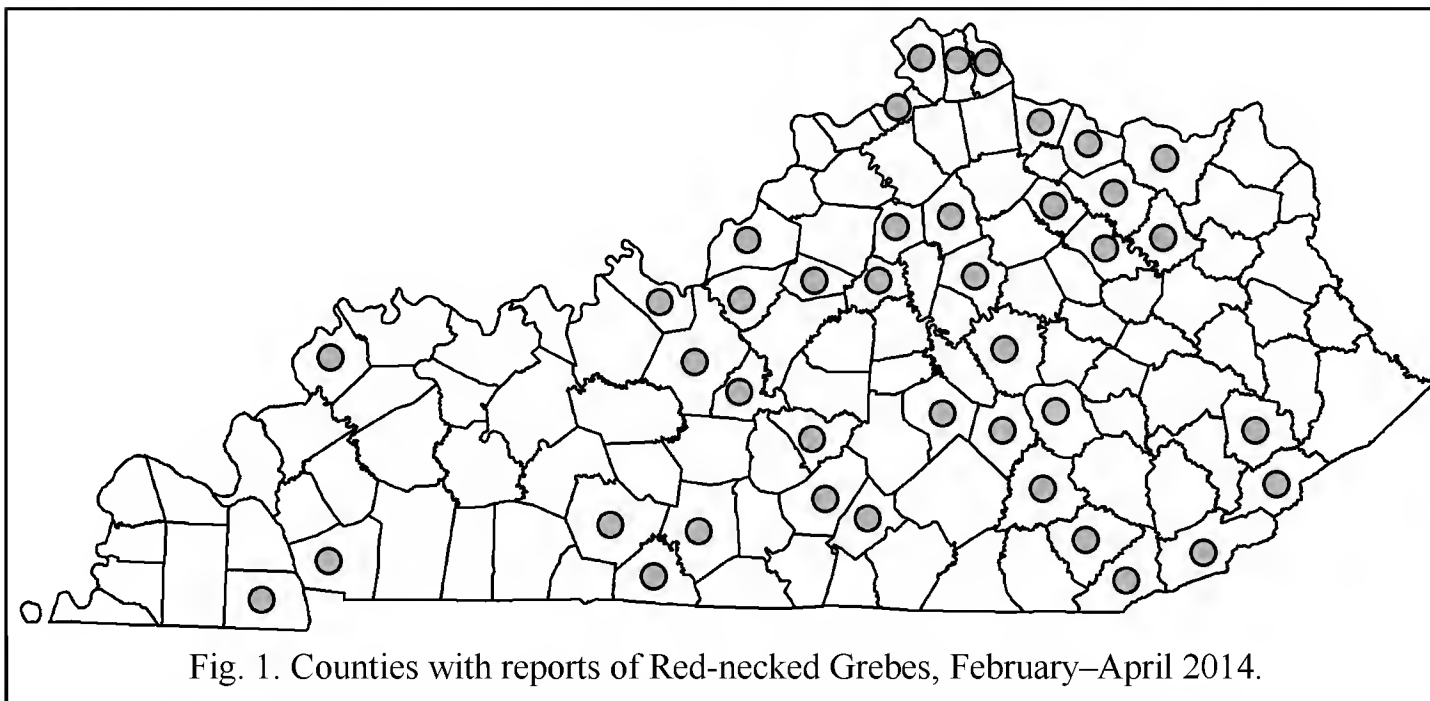


Fig. 1. Counties with reports of Red-necked Grebes, February–April 2014.

including Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*), Redhead (*Aythya americana*), Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*), and Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*). The largest numbers of these species also showed up in the northeastern portion of the state.

The last waterbirds to appear across the eastern United States, presumably from the last portions of the Great Lakes to freeze over, included relatively large numbers of Long-tailed Ducks (*Clangula hyemalis*) and Red-necked Grebes (*Podiceps grisegena*). The initial report of Red-necked Grebes in Kentucky came from Green River Lake, Taylor County, where Debbie Hamilton reported five birds 22 February 2014. The next report was for two birds at the reservoir at Jacobson Park at Lexington, Fayette County, by Lou Shain 4 March 2014. In the following weeks, checks of bodies of water across the state yielded an unprecedented number of Red-necked Grebes (Fig. 1; Table 1), most or all of which likely arrived during the first week of March. By the third week of the month, no fewer than 260 individuals had been found on nearly 60 bodies of water in Kentucky (Fig. 1; Table 1). A majority of grebes were found in the eastern half of the state, with only one to two individuals found on a few bodies of water in the western portion.

The more remarkable counts of Red-necked Grebes in Kentucky included at least 27 on Reservoir #4 at Lexington, Fayette County; 23 on Green River Lake, Taylor County; 16 on Cave Run Lake, Bath/Rowan counties; 15 on Martins Fork Lake, Harlan County; 14 on Laurel River Lake, Laurel County; and 13 on a lake at the Valhalla Golf Club in eastern Jefferson County (Table 1). In fact, more than half of the water bodies on which grebes were found hosted more than one individual. Once in place, it appeared that most of the grebes lingered where they were initially found for a few weeks, and individuals were still at several locales during early April. One that lingered on the lake at Long Run Park, eastern Jefferson County, was the last to be reported 25 April 2014 by Barbara Woerner.

Table 1. Red-necked Grebes Reported in Kentucky, February–April 2014.

County	Location	Peak #	First date	Peak date	Last date	Who first reported/Who had high count/Who last reported
Adair	Green River Lake	2	13 Mar	same	same	BP, EH, MY
Allen	Barren River Lake	1	15 Mar	same	28 Mar	BP, JS/same/MB
Anderson	Beaver Lake	2	9 Mar	same	same	NB
Barren	Barren River Lake	4	15 Mar	same	28 Mar	BP, JS/same/MB
Bath	Cave Run Lake	3	5 Mar	9 Mar	26 Mar	BWu/same/same
Bell	Pine Mountain State Park	1	21 Mar	same	same	RD
" "	Fern Lake, Middlesboro	1	21 Mar	same	same	RD
Boone	Gravel pit s. of Petersburg	1	9 Mar	same	22 Mar	LM/same/LM
" "	Camp Ernst Lake	1	15 Mar	same	16 Mar	JR & LM/same/LM
" "	Ohio R. near the mouth of Landing Creek	1	22 Mar	same	same	LM
Bracken	Ohio R. above Meldahl Dam	3	6 Mar	same	same	BP
" "	Ohio R. at Higginsport, OH	2	6 Mar	same	same	BP
Bullitt	Lk. Nevin, Bernheim Forest	1	8 Mar	same	5 Apr	SDi, DM/same/SDi
Calloway	Bailey Hollow, Kentucky Lk.	1	20 Mar	same	same	HC
Campbell	Ohio R. across from Dayton, KY (off St. Rose Church, OH)	2	5 Mar	same	6 Mar	WH/same/PL
Fayette	Jacobson Park	4	4 Mar	14 Mar	31 Mar	LS/RO/JL
" "	Reservoirs #2/#3	12	5 Mar	27 Mar	6 Apr	CF/BWu/SP
" "	Reservoir #4	27	7 Mar	16 Mar	16 Mar	RO/ASK/same
" "	Quarry nr. Spindletop Farm	1	14 Mar	same	same	DL
Fleming	Flemingsburg Reservoir	1	13 Mar	same	same	BWu
Franklin	Silver Lake	3	14 Mar	same	19 Mar	EL/same/KR
Gallatin	Craig's Creek	5	5 Mar	6 Mar	9 Mar	BP/BP/LM
Hardin	Lower Douglas Lake	10	8 Mar	21 Mar	8 Apr	ML/same/same
" "	Freeman Lake	3	9 Mar	same	3 Apr	S&JK/same/RH
" "	Paradise Lake	3	10 Mar	same	same	MS et al.
Harlan	Martins Fork Lake	15	13 Mar	same	same	JS
Jackson/ Madison	Owsley Fork Lake	7	6 Mar	same	2 Apr	RF, RB

Table 1 continued.

County	Location	Peak #	First date	Peak date	Last date	Who first reported/Who had high count/Who last reported
Jefferson	Ohio River	1	8 Mar	same	10 Mar	BD, J&PB, CB/same/BBC
" "	Valhalla Golf Club	13	10 Mar	11 Mar	same	GB, BP/ BP, MY/same
" "	Long Run Park	10	10 Mar	10 Mar	25 Apr	BWo/BP, GB/BWo
" "	Willow Pond, Cherokee Pk.	1	15 Mar	same	27 Mar	AL/same/JBa
" "	Bashford Manor Mall retention basin	1	19 Mar	same	same	SDe
Kenton	Ohio River at Covington	3	9 Mar	same	same	RC
Knott	Carr Creek Lake	5	21 Mar	same	same	RD
Knox	Barbourville City Park Lake	3	21 Mar	same	same	RD
Larue	Salem Lake	4	14 Mar	same	same	LA
Laurel	Laurel River Lake	14	18 Mar	same	same	RD
Letcher	Elkhorn Lake	1	21 Mar	same	same	RD
" "	Fishpond Lake	2	21 Mar	same	same	RD
Lewis	Ohio R. below Vanceburg	3	6 Mar	same	same	JBr
" "	Ohio R. below Manchester Islands	4	6 Mar	same	same	JBr
Lincoln	Cedar Creek Lake	4	8 Mar	same	same	BP, J&DE, EH, MS
Madison	Lake Vega	2	18 Mar	22 Mar	same	KW/GR/same
Mason	Ohio River above Maysville	6	6 Mar	same	same	JBr
" "	Farm Pond	1	7 Mar	same	same	BWu
Meade	Doe Valley Lake	4	17 Mar	same	same	BP
Nicholas	Lake Carnico	2	12 Mar	same	same	BP, EL
Rockcastle	Lake Linville	12	8 Mar	same	27 Mar	RF, RB/BP, EH, MS/RD et al.
Rowan	Cave Run Lake	13	5 Mar	9 Mar	2 Apr	BWu/same/same
" "	Minor Clark Fish Hatchery	1	9 Mar	same	same	MW, BWu
Russell	Lake Cumberland	1	15 Mar	same	same	RD
Scott	Lake Victoria	1	10 Mar	same	same	JS
Spencer	Taylorsville Lake	1	10 Mar	same	same	EH
Taylor	Campbellsville City Lake	4	13 Mar	same	16 Mar	EH, MY, BP/same/JS
" "	Green River Lake	23	22 Feb	13 Mar	6 Apr	DH/BP, EH, MY/JS
Trigg	Lake Barkley at the mouth of Little River	2	20 Mar	same	same	JBr
Union	Ohio R. at Uniontown Dam	1	10 Mar	same	same	CC
Warren	Griffin Park	1	11 Mar	same	20 Mar	CW/same/F&AL

**Key to reporters:** Lyn Atherton (LA), Audubon Society of Kentucky (ASK), Jamie Baker (JBa), Rebecca Bates (RB), Nancy Barnett (NB), Matthan Beachy (MB), Giff Beaton (GB), Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Jane & Pat Bell (J&PB), Carol Besse (CB), John Brunjes (JBr), Hap Chambers (HC), Charlie Crawford (CC), Rodney Crice (RC), Brian Davis (BD), Steve Deetsch (SDe), Roseanna Denton (RD), Scott Dickman (SDi), Jackie & Diane Elmore (J&DE), Caleb Fligor (CF), Rob Foster (RF), Debbie Hamilton (DH), Richard Healy (RH), Eddie Huber (EH), William Hull (WH), Steve & Janet Kistler (S&JK), David Lang (DL), Ellis Lauder milk (EL), Patricia Lee (PL), Marjorie Lehman (ML), Amy Lint (AL), Judy Lundquist (JL), Frank & Alison Lyne (F&AL), Dax Manley (DM), Lee McNeely (LM), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP), Steve Pavey (SP), Keith Richardson (KR), Gary Ritchison (GR), Jeff Rowe (JR), Lou Shain (LS), Jeff Sole (JS), Matt Stickel (MS), Kathryn Watson (KW), Chad Wilson (CW), Barbara Woerner (BWu), Mike Wright (MW), Brian Wulker (BWu), Mary Yandell (MY).

The only other winter during the recent past when ice covered more than 90% of the Great Lakes was 1993-1994 (Rodman 2014). Not coincidentally, a similar influx of Red-necked Grebes occurred during February 1994 (Kaufman 1994), when one to five were found at seven different locales in Kentucky (Palmer-Ball 2003). The much greater number of reports during 2014 can probably be attributed, at least in part, to better coverage by birders, but there also must certainly have been a larger flight. Because Lake Ontario was the last of the lakes to freeze over, it is likely that the Red-necked Grebes were forced off that body of water. Lake Erie had become ice-covered several weeks before, and may have been the source of many of the White-winged Scoters. Also, the scoters, which typically dive to the bottom for invertebrate food, were probably forced off of the shallower portions of the lakes sooner. The Red-necked Grebes may be wintering in open water far from shore where their food, consisting of fish, may be obtainable without having to reach the bottom.



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- 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, KY, 40222 (brainard@mindspring.com).

**Observation of a Northern Rough-winged Swallow Nest in a Tree Cavity**

Frank Lyne

On the afternoon of 11 June 2014, while wading down a stretch of Whippoorwill Creek in southwest Logan County, I observed a Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) going in and out of a hollow underneath a bend in an overhanging branch of an American sycamore tree (Figs. 1 & 2). As I approached this tree, an adult perched nearby long enough for me to take its picture. Inside the eye level hole, I could see two young swallows. They retreated as far back as they could before my first camera flash. The hole appeared to go some distance back in the nearly horizontal trunk and continued upwards into the smaller vertical trunk above the bend.



Fig. 1. Cavity in American Sycamore branch overhanging Whippoorwill Creek, Logan County, used by Northern Rough-winged Swallows for nesting during 2014.

Photograph by Frank Lyne.

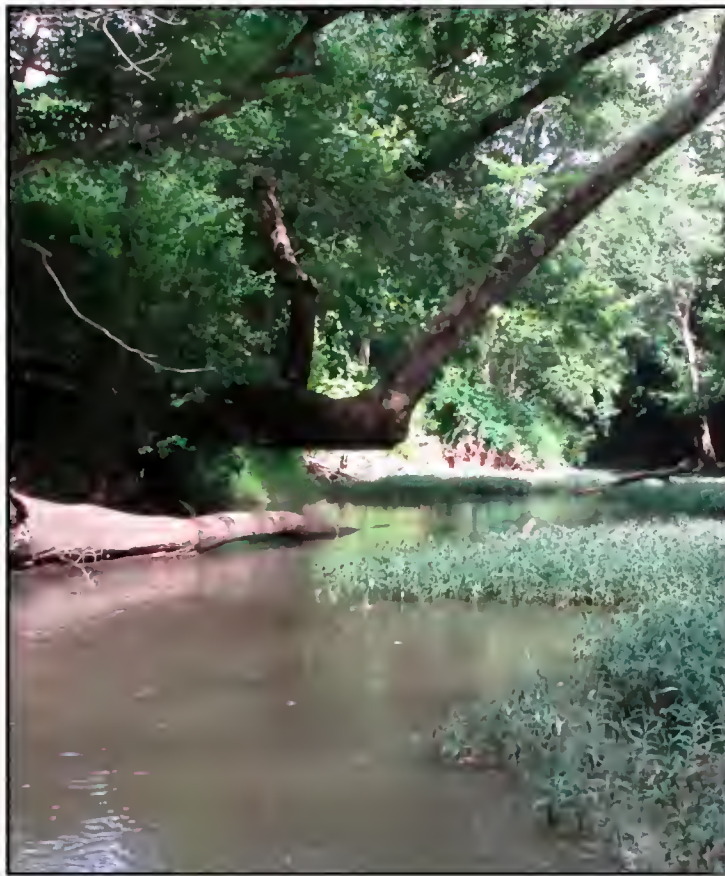


Returning the next day, I couldn't confirm the presence of more than one nestling still in the nest, but did see as many as five swallows perched in nearby trees. My nest photo from the second day revealed that the remaining nestling was sharing its dank quarters with a snail and a couple of centipedes. The remaining swallow was gone by the following day, and no swallows were hunting nearby.

A review of field notes revealed that I had seen five Northern Rough-winged Swallows in this general vicinity 23 June 2012, but did not find any nest at that time except an empty one on a cliff face. That nest was occupied by an Eastern Phoebe when I checked it 12 June 2014. The observation of Northern Rough-winged Swallows in this area previously suggests that they might have utilized the same cavity for nesting before.

This appears to be the first documented occurrence of Northern Rough-winged Swallow utilizing a tree cavity for nesting in Kentucky, and something of an unusual occurrence rangewide. Neither Mengel (1965) nor Palmer-Ball (1996) listed tree cavities among the known nest locations for this species in the state. Moreover, DeJong (1996) notes the use of "tree holes" as "rare" in describing nest placement across the range of the species. The key feature for site selection in Northern Rough-winged Swallows may simply be a horizontal hole in suitable foraging territory. They have been known to nest in a variety of natural and artificial holes including burrows excavated by other species, recesses in cliff lines and vertical road embankments, and a Civil War canon (DeJong 1996), as well as plastic pipes mounted specifically to attract them (Miller 2011).

Fig. 2. Another view of American Sycamore branch overhanging Whippoorwill Creek, Logan County, used by Northern Rough-winged Swallows for nesting during 2014. The cavity was in the thick, horizontal portion of the branch, with the entrance on the right end. Photograph by Frank Lyne.



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## NEWS AND VIEWS

**Visit the NEW K.O.S. Web Site!**

You may now find information about the Society on our new web site at the following address: [www.birdky.org](http://www.birdky.org). Please bookmark this web site address, as the former web site will be removed when the migration of all information it is completed. The K.O.S. Board would like to thank Dr. Gary Ritchison at Eastern Kentucky University for his many years as site host and manager. Gary created the Society's first web site in 1998, and he has maintained it as a volunteer ever since!

**Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available**

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to K.O.S. and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to a young birder between the ages of 13 and 18 who lives in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition for a young birder to attend an American Birding Association Summer Camp. Details about the A.B.A. camps can be found on the A.B.A. website. To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the K.O.S. web site (<http://biology.eku.edu/kos/Kingsolver.htm>), write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to K.O.S. at a meeting, or in writing. The deadline to apply for a 2015 Kingsolver Scholarship is May 15, 2015.

**K.O.S. Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available**

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to \$500, please contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at ([scott.marsh@twc.com](mailto:scott.marsh@twc.com)).

**Kentucky Bird Records Committee**

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) is charged with determining the validity of records of rare and out-of-season birds in Kentucky. Sightings of such birds should be documented with information supporting the identification and promptly submitted to the KBRC. Photographic evidence is desirable but not essential. Electronic documentation is preferred and should be submitted to KBRC Secretary, Ben Yandell, via e-mail at [secy@kybirdrecords.org](mailto:secy@kybirdrecords.org). If electronic submission is not feasible, paper documentation can be mailed to Ben Yandell, KBRC Secretary, 513 Lymington Ct., Louisville, KY 40243.

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Red-throated Loon, *Fayette*  
10 March 2014  
Judy Lundquist



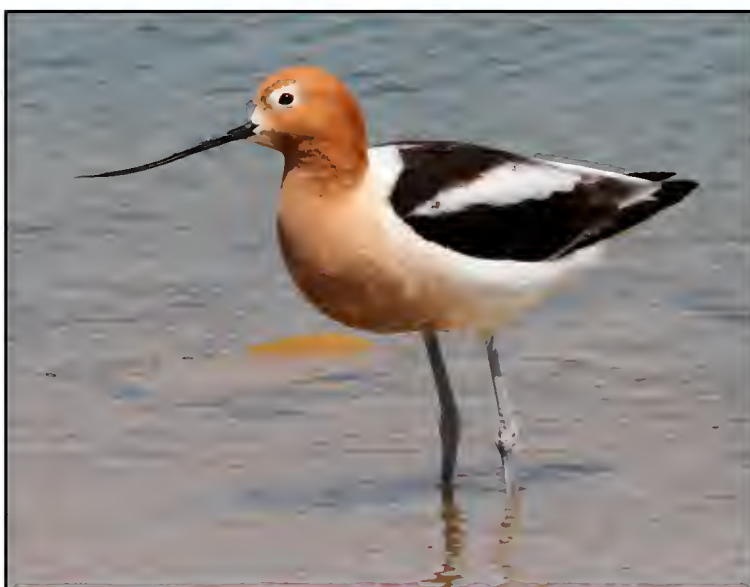
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, *Trigg*  
22 April 2014  
Bill Lisowsky



Thayer's Gull & Lesser Black-backed Gull, *Gallatin*  
5 March 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Baird's Sandpiper (1 of 2), *Logan*  
31 March 2014  
Frank Lyne



American Avocet, *Hardin*  
25 April 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Long-tailed Duck, *Jefferson*  
6 March 2014  
Eddie Huber



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## THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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## THE COVER

We thank Kate Hannah for the image of the two Scissor-tailed Flycatcher fledglings (*Tyrannus forficatus*) taken near their nest 25 July 2014 in southern Daviess County (see p. 89). Financial support for color reproduction in this issue provided by the Daniel Boone National Forest.



## SUMMER 2014 SEASON

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. and Lee McNeely

Weather conditions during June and July 2014 were somewhat variable across the state. The average monthly temperature at most stations was close to normal to slightly above-normal statewide during June, but during July average monthly temperature was a bit cooler than normal with most stations recording temperatures 2-3°F below normal. The amount of rainfall was variable during June; much of the state was close to normal, although Paducah received about one and a half times normal precipitation. During July, most of the state received a below-normal amount of rainfall, with Paducah receiving about one-half of normal; Jackson was the exception with much wetter than normal conditions. Rarity highlights included White-winged Dove, nesting Scissor-tailed Flycatchers in Daviess County, and nesting Brown Creepers in Wolfe County. Least Terns appeared to have a relatively successful nesting season, due primarily to the lack of high water events.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted for inclusion in the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Reports of out-of-season birds and rarities should be accompanied by written and/or photographic documentation. This documentation is reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

**Abbreviations** – County names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ph.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vo.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the report was documented with voice recording; “†” next to an observer’s initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report; ad(s). = adult(s); juv(s). = juvenile(s); yg. = young. **Place names:** Adkins Swamp, Peabody WMA, Muhlenberg; Camp #9 = Camp #9 coal preparation plant, Union; Camp #11 = former Camp #11 mine, Union; Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment, Lake Cumberland, Pulaski; Guthrie Swamp, Todd; Horseshoe Road = sloughs along Horseshoe Road, w. Henderson; Jacobson Park, Lexington, Fayette; Kuttawa = Lake Barkley near Old Kuttawa Recreation Area, Lyon; Ky Dam Village = Kentucky Dam Village SRP, Marshall; Melco = Melco flood retention basin, Jefferson; Minor Clark = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan; nw. of Powderly = Muhlenberg County Rail Trail nw. of Powderly; Rock Bridge = Rock Bridge Trail, Daniel Boone National Forest, Wolfe; Sauerheber = Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson; SRP = State Resort Park; WMA = Wildlife Management Area.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Mute Swan</b> – the family group at Adkins Swamp continued through the season (SG, TG et al.).  | <b>Northern Pintail</b> – 1 at Camp #11 on 25 July (BP, EH) may have been an early migrant.   |
| <b>Blue-winged Teal</b> – tardy males were observed nw. of Powderly 2 June (SG, TG); at Pumphouse Pond, <i>Pulaski</i> , 3 June (RD); and at Melco 14 June (EH). | <b>Canvasback</b> – a female [perhaps injured?] was observed at the mouth of the Little Sandy River, <i>Greenup</i> , 12-26 July (†CT). |
| <b>Gadwall</b> – an adult male was present on a pond in Whites Bottom, <i>Cumberland</i> 18 June (ph. RD).   | <b>Hooded Merganser</b> – a female or juv. on the Casey Creek embayment of Green River Lake, <i>Adair</i> , 12 June (RD) was unusual.   |
| <b>Northern Shoveler</b> – tardy males were seen at Sandy Watkins Park, <i>Henderson</i> , 4 June (CC) and at Melco from late May to 24 June (EH).               | <b>Common Loon</b> – 1 was at Fishing Creek 15 July (RD).   |
|  | <b>Pied-billed Grebe</b> – there were two reports: 1 at Brown Park, Louisville, 24 June   |



(MBi, RF) and 1 at Sauerheber 15 July (CC).

**American White Pelican** – reports of interest included 2 at Horseshoe Road 9 June (ph. CC); 8 at Kuttawa 10 June (JS); 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 17 June (ph. BWo); 1 at Lexington Reservoir #4 on 22 June (ph. EP); and 6 on Mitchell Lake, Ballard WMA, *Ballard*, on one occasion during the first week or two of July (SR).

**Least Bittern** – up to 8 (18 June) were seen/heard at Adkins Swamp during June and early July (SG, TG, JS).

**Great Egret** – reports of interest included 21 at Melco 9 June (CB, TB); 3 at Fishing Creek 16 July (RD); and at least 110 at Horseshoe Road 25 July (BP, EH, CC). An active nest was observed on Shippingport Island, Louisville, 20 June (BP et al.).

**Little Blue Heron** – 1 was at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*, 6 June (ph. TN) with 3 there 27 June (ph. TN).

**Snowy Egret** – reports of interest included 1 at Melco to 19 June (EH) and 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 9-11 July (CB, TB, et al.).

**Cattle Egret** – reports of interest included 1 at Elk Run Golf Course, *Pike*, 4 June (LE *fide* JC); 1 on a farm pond along KY 169, *Jessamine*, 8 June (JS, CS); and 1 at Minor Clark 6 July (ph. JS).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** – 25-30 active nests were counted on Shippingport Island, Louisville, 20 June (BP et al.).

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** – the only reports were from traditional breeding areas along Cypress Creek, *Marshall* (JS) and at the Highland Creek Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union* (CC), with 2 juvs. on a nest at the latter 27 June (CC).

**Osprey** – summer reports of birds away from known breeding territories continue to increase (eBird data), although there were no new nesting territories reported.

**Mississippi Kite** – 2 pairs apparently had nests at St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, this year as 2 juvs. were observed together during early August (MCo, ph. BWo, MY, et

al.). Other reports of interest included 1 at Cherokee Park, Louisville, 15 June (MCo); 1-2 at Ryland Heights, *Kenton*, during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June (MBe, †EL, JL); 1 nw. of Powderly several times during the season (SG, TG); and 1-2 at the Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*, 8-25 June (SG, TG, VS).

**Northern Harrier** – 1 along I-64 ene. of Duckers, *Woodford*, 16 June (IH) was not near known breeding areas.

**Bald Eagle** – the upward trend in the number of occupied nesting territories continued with 131 territories, including 13 at new locales, documented during spring 2014 (Heyden 2014). Expansion of local populations was noted in several areas including along the Licking River, *Harrison/Pendleton*, and at Cave Run Lake, *Bath/Menifee/Morgan* (Heyden 2014). Notable new locales included along the Green River, *Casey*; at Cedar Creek Lake, *Lincoln*; at Buckhorn Lake, *Perry*; and along the Kentucky River, *Woodford* (Heyden 2014).

**Virginia Rail** – 1 was heard at Adkins Swamp 18 June (JS, SG).

**Common Gallinule** – there was only one report: 1 at Minor Clark 6/8 June (BWu, VS).

**American Coot** – there were four reports of single birds as follows: at Pond Creek Marsh, Sauerheber 9 June (JM); at Adkins Swamp 13 June (SG, TG); at Mill Creek Lake, Tompkinsville, *Monroe*, 19 July (ph. RD); and at the Louisville Zoo 24 July (AH).

**Black-bellied Plover** – a presumed very tardy spring migrant was at the Falls of the Ohio 16 June (EH, DS, TB).

**Semipalmated Plover** – a tardy spring migrant was still at Sauerheber 1 June (RL) with 2 last seen at Melco 2 June (EH); 1 at Horseshoe Road 20 July (CC) was the earliest fall bird to be reported with individuals at a few locales by 24-27 July (eBird data).

**Killdeer** – 150 were at Horseshoe Road by 1 July (CC).

**Spotted Sandpiper** – 2 were seen on the Mississippi River downstream from Watson Point, *Fulton*, 5 June (JBr); there were three late June reports of probable early fall migrants: 1 at Horseshoe Road 22 June (CC); 1 at Melco 24 June (EH); and 1 at Guthrie Swamp, *Todd*, 28 June (FL).

**Greater Yellowlegs** – singles at Petros Pond 19 June (ph. JS) and at Horseshoe Road 22 June (ph. CC) were presumably very early fall migrants; 4 were at the latter locale by 28 July (CC).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** – a tardy bird lingered at Melco to 2 June (EH); 1 at Guthrie Swamp 9 July (FL) was the earliest returning fall migrant to be reported.

**Stilt Sandpiper** – 2 were at Horseshoe Road 15 July (ph. CC) with 1 there 28 July (CC); also reported was 1 at Minor Clark 26 July (MW *fide* BWu).

**Sanderling** – 1 was at the Falls of the Ohio 23 July (DS).

**Least Sandpiper** – 1 at Melco 24 June (EH) and 2 at Horseshoe Road 2 July (CC) were the earliest to be reported; 40-50 were at the latter locale by 25 July (CC, BP, EH).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** – 22 were still at Melco 2 June (EH); 4 at Horseshoe Road (CC, BP, EH) and at least 3 at Camp #9, both 25 July, were the earliest fall migrants to be reported.

**Baird's Sandpiper** – an ad. at Camp #9 on 25 July (ph. BP, ph. EH) was relatively early.

**Pectoral Sandpiper** – 1 at Horseshoe Road 9 July (CC) was the earliest fall migrant to be reported.

**Short-billed Dowitcher** – there were two reports: 1 at Horseshoe Road 9-25 July (ph. CC, BP) and 2 at Jacobson Park 20 July (SC).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** – 1 at Guthrie Swamp 9 July (ph. FL) was a very early returning fall migrant.

**Ring-billed Gull** – ca. 200 had returned to Ky Dam Village by 23 July (BP).

**Herring Gull** – a second-year bird was at the Falls of the Ohio 14 June & 15 July (ph. TB, CB) with a very early juv. there 29-31 July (ph. TB, CB, BP, DS).

**Least Tern** – 1 at Jacobson Park 7 July (†RO) was a local first and very far out of range for the time of year; 1 was on the Ohio River at Maceo, *Daviess*, 14 June (MY, BY); 2-3 were at Horseshoe Road 9-24 July (CC, RD, HC); and 6-7 ads. and 2 large chicks were at Camp #9 on 25 July (BP, EH) confirming breeding there for the first time in several years. On the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, nesting appeared to be relatively successful this year with 750-1000 active nests below Watson Point, *Fulton*, 250 active nests on the sandbar downstream from Middle Bar, *Hickman*, and 49 nests on the Ohio River upstream from Ledbetter, *Livingston*, during the season (CP, JBr). Nesting failures seemed to be relatively modest and were caused primarily by predation and rises in water level (CP, JBr).

**Caspian Tern** – 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 10 July (TB) was the earliest fall migrant reported.

**Black Tern** – 5 were on the Mississippi River downstream from Watson Point, *Fulton*, 12 June (JBr) with 3 at the same locale 9 July (JBr).

**Common Tern** – 3 were seen along the Mississippi River at the Middle Bar sandbar, *Hickman*, 4 June (†JBr).

**White-winged Dove** – 1 was at Murray, *Calloway*, 11-12 June (ph. ME). KBRC review required.

**Barn Owl** – there were two reports: 1 flushed from a barn along Pointer Creek Road, *Pulaski*, 13 July (RD) and 2 along Lampton Lane, *Adair*, 29 July (DC).

**Willow Flycatcher** – 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Christian*, 13 June (DM, SSo) was a local first.

**Least Flycatcher** – an *Empidonax* sp. at the Anchorage Trail, *Jefferson*, 29 July (JBe, PB) was likely this species.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** – a pair with an active nest was found along Greenbriar

Church Road se. of Utica, *Daviess*, 18 July (JH, ph. MBr, et al.) with the family group remaining in the area for a couple of weeks.

**Bell's Vireo** – reports of interest included up to 3 at Sandy Watkins Park, *Henderson*, during the season (CC); several on territory at scattered locales along KY 268 at and nw. of Sauerheber during the season (JM, CC, et al.); and 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 1 June (DM) with 1 at Ft. Campbell, *Christian*, 13 June (DM, SSo).

**Purple Martin** – by mid-July martin roosts were noted on National Weather Service radar at Glasgow, *Barren*; at Lexington, *Fayette*; at Hickman, *Fulton*; ne. of Warsaw, *Gallatin*; e. of Mortons Gap, *Hopkins*; at Covington, *Kenton*; at London, *Laurel*; at Morehead, *Rowan*; e. of Shelbyville, *Shelby*; and at Williamsburg, *Whitley* (BP). Ground checks of various roosts included the following: 4000 birds s. of Cannonsburg, *Boyd*, 25 July (SSw); ca 1000 at Morehead, *Rowan*, during the last week of July (FB *fide* SF); and ca. 10,000 at Williamsburg, *Whitley*, 30 July (BK).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** – 2 were heard singing at Rock Bridge 1 June (BP) with singles seen/heard there a few more times during June (m. ob.).

**Brown-headed Nuthatch** – 1-2 birds were present at the Ky Dam Village nesting area during the season (m. ob.).

**Brown Creeper** – an active nest, the first documented for e. Kentucky, was found at Rock Bridge 5 June (ph. FR, ph. BP).

**Sedge Wren** – 1 at Surrey Hills Farm, *Jefferson*, 28 July (BP) was the only one reported.

**Swainson's Thrush** – a tardy migrant lingered at Lexington to 2 June (MT).

**Swainson's Warbler** – 1 was heard s. of Greeley, *Lee*, 1 June (BP); otherwise the only reports were from traditionally known breeding areas (eBird data).

**Bachman's Sparrow** – the only report was for 1 at the traditional breeding area at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 4 June (DM).

**Lark Sparrow** – 1 was along West Franklin Road at Sand Slough, *Henderson*, 24 June (CC) with 4 (including a juv.) along McDonald Landing Road, *Henderson*, 20 July (ph. CC) and at least 6 (including at least 1 juv.) there 25 July (BP, EH).

**Savannah Sparrow** – reports of interest included 2 (including a singing bird) along Butler Branch Road nne. of Columbia, *Adair*, 11 June (†RD); a singing bird at Valley Oak Cemetery, *Casey*, 30 June (vo. RD); 1 nw. of Powderly, *Muhlenberg*, 6 July (ph. SG, TG); and 1 heard along Hidden Lake Road e. of Glasgow, *Barren*, 29 July (†AX).

**Henslow's Sparrow** – reports of interest included 2 at Ft. Campbell, *Trigg*, 1 June (DM) with 3 there 4 June (DM); 3 heard along Christine Road e. of Columbia, *Adair*, 9 June (RD) and 1 heard along Shirley Road nnw. of Columbia, *Adair*, 10 June (RD) that were local firsts, and 1 at Hisle Farm Park, *Fayette*, 17 July (TN).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – an ad. male along Middle Creek Road, *Boone*, 7 June (KH, GF, et al.) may have been on territory or a tardy migrant.

**Dickcissel** – 3 were still on territory at the Eastpark Industrial Park, *Boyd/Greenup*, 7 June (CT) with 1 still there 13 July (CT).

**Bobolink** – territorial birds continued through the season at Camp Nelson Civil War Park, *Jessamine* (m. ob.); single males were noted at two different locales just w. of Midway, *Woodford*, 23-25 June (IH); 4 (possibly a family group) were at Hisle Farm Park, *Fayette*, 17 July (ph. TN) with 12 there 20 July (JS); a flock of 75 at Shaker Village, *Mercer*, 19 July (DL, ASK) must have contained multiple family groups from successful nesting nearby.

**Brown-headed Cowbird** – a fledgling was seen following an ad. Lark Sparrow along McDonald Landing Road, *Henderson*, 25 July (BP, EH) representing a first documented report of parasitism for the sparrow in Kentucky; a nestling in a Carolina Wren nest at Louisville fledged relatively late 27 July (BP).



**Observers:** Audubon Society of Kentucky (ASK), Colleen Becker (CB), Tom Becker (TB), Jane Bell (JBe), Pat Bell (PB), Mark Betcher (MBe), Melissa Bishop (MBi), Mike Brown (MBr), John Brunjes (JBr), Fred Busroe (FB), Mike Callan (MCa), Sam Carbo (SC), Joan Carr (JC), Hap Chambers (HC), Marge Constan (MCo), Derek Coomer (DC), Charlie Crawford (CC), Roseanna Denton (RD), Melissa Easley (ME), Les Estep (LE), Rand Falls (RF), Ginny Fantetti (GF), Scott Freidhof (SF), Steve Graham (SG), Teresa Graham (TG), Anna Hagood (AH), Ian Horn (IH), Janet Howard (JH), Eddie Huber (EH), Kathi Hutton (KH), Brett Kuss (BK), David Lang (DL), Richard Lee (RL), John Leon (JL), Evan Leon (EL), Frank Lyne (FL), John Meredig (JM), Daniel Moss (DM), multiple observers (m. ob.), Tina Nauman (TN), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP), Eddie Pauley (EP), Constance Powell (CP), Scott Record (SR), Frank Renfrow (FR), Vicki Sandage (VS), Carol Sole (CS), Jeff Sole (JS), Scott Somershoe (SSo), Del Striegel (DS), Steve Sweeney (SSw), Charles Thompson (CT), Mark Tower (MT), Barbara Woerner (BWo), Mike Wright (MW), Brian Wulker (BWu), Antonio Xeira (AX), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY).

**Additional Source:** Heyden, K. 2014. 2014 Bald Eagle Nesting Activity in Kentucky. Ky. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Frankfort, KY. Aug 28, 2014. Unpub. rpt. —8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, KY, 40222 (brainard@mindspring.com) (Palmer-Ball) and P.O. Box 463, Burlington, KY, 41005 (lkmc9@aim.com) (McNeely).

## 15<sup>TH</sup> REPORT OF THE KENTUCKY BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Ben Yandell, KBRC Secretary-Chair

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) maintains the official list of bird species documented as having occurred within the state. The committee reviews documentation of bird observations and takes formal votes to determine whether the documentation substantiates the natural occurrence of the species within state boundaries. Only rare, out-of-season, or out-of-area species require review by the KBRC. A list of species that require review ("Review List") can be found on p. 109 of this issue, and is also available online at <http://www.birdky.org/kentucky-birding-reports-and-archives.html>.

This report covers committee actions from April 2012 through November 2014. The last (14<sup>th</sup>) KBRC report was published two years ago (Yandell 2012). The principal effects of KBRC actions since the previous report are as follows: a) adds Western Tanager to the official Kentucky list and to the Review List; b) adds King Rail to the Review List; and c) deletes Red-throated Loon, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Rufous Hummingbird, Bachman's Sparrow, and Nelson's Sparrow from the Review List. The Kentucky state list now stands at 385 species, including extinct and extirpated species. Committee members [\* = current member] participating in these actions were Hap Chambers, Roseanna Denton, Eddie Huber\*, David Lang\*, Mark Monroe\*, Larry Peavler\*, and Ben Yandell (Secretary-Chair)\*.

The list below comprises 128 approved records. Ten reports are pending initial committee action, and 12 reports are pending a second round of voting. Each report listed below is displayed in the following sequence: *Scientific Name*. **English Name (# if >1)** [KBRC report #]; Date(s) present; Location, *County name* [Observer(s) († = written documentation; ph = photograph; vo = voice recording)]. Species nomenclature and order follow the American Ornithologists' Union (1998) and subsequent supplements through the 55<sup>th</sup> (AOU 2014).

### Accepted Reports:

*Dendrocygna autumnalis*. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (10)** [#2011.010] 14-16 May 2011; sw. of Rumsey, McLean [MGa (ph), m. ob.]

- Dendrocygna autumnalis*. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (2)** [#2012.014] 23 Jun–20 July 2012; Elizabethtown, *Hardin* [TS (ph), m. ob.]
- Dendrocygna autumnalis*. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (4)** [#2013.033] circa 15 July–7 Aug 2013; n. of Mosely Pond, *Logan* [FL (ph), m. ob.]
- Dendrocygna autumnalis*. **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (2)** [#2013.036] 21–25 May & Sep 2013; Frogue Lake, *Todd* [JoB (†)]
- Anas cyanoptera*. **Cinnamon Teal** [#2013.010] 28 Mar–7 Apr 2013; Ironworks Pike n. of Lexington, *Fayette* [JSo (ph), CS, m. ob.]
- Anas cyanoptera*. **Cinnamon Teal** [#2014.006] 12–15 Feb 2014; McElroy Lake, *Warren* [TD (†), BF (ph)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2011.028] 24 Nov 2011; Holmes Bend, Green River Lake, *Adair* [DC (†)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2012.039] 17 Nov 2012; Green River Lake, *Adair* [BP, EH (ph), RD]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2013.011] 31 Mar 2013; Cave Run Lake, *Bath/Rowan* [BW (†)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2013.019] 8 Feb 2013; Freeman Lake, *Hardin* [RH, BP (ph), EH, HC]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2013.044] 12–13 Nov 2013; Green River Lake, *Adair* [RD (ph), JSo]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2014.014] 7 Mar 2014; Lexington Reservoir #3, *Fayette* [RO (ph)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2014.015] 10 Mar 2014; Lexington Reservoir #2, *Fayette* [JL (ph)]
- Gavia stellata*. **Red-throated Loon** [#2014.016] 28 Mar 2014; Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren* [JaB (†), MB]
- Gavia pacifica*. **Pacific Loon** [#2011.006] 2 Apr 2011; Vickers Bay, Kentucky Lake, *Lyon* [HC (†), AN, TT]
- Podiceps grisegena*. **Red-necked Grebe** [#2010.045] 27 Nov–5 Dec 2010; Jacobson Park, *Fayette* [JP (ph), EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Aechmophorus occidentalis*. **Western Grebe** [#2013.008] 15 Mar–12 Apr 2013; Ohio River at Louisville, *Jefferson* [EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Aechmophorus occidentalis*. **Western Grebe** [#2013.014] 18 Apr 2013; Kentucky Lake above Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall* [BP (†), EH]
- Mycteria americana*. **Wood Stork (4)** [#2012.016] 23–24 July 2012; Flat Lake Swamp, Boatwright WMA, *Ballard* [RCo, GB (ph), KK]
- Mycteria americana*. **Wood Stork** [#2012.017] 30 July–23 Aug 2012; Anchorage, *Jefferson* [J&PB (ph), m. ob.]
- Phalacrocorax brasilianus*. **Neotropic Cormorant (up to 4)** [#2011.015] 19 June–30 July 2011; Lake No. 9, *Fulton* [JW (ph), MY (ph), BY (ph), m. ob.]
- Phalacrocorax brasilianus*. **Neotropic Cormorant** [#2013.006] 2 Mar 2013; Kuttawa, *Lyon* [BP (†), EH (ph), MA, BW]
- Phalacrocorax brasilianus*. **Neotropic Cormorant** [#2013.031] 25 Jun 2013; Lake No. 9, *Fulton* [BP (†/ph), EH (ph)]
- Anhinga anhinga*. **Anhinga (2)** [#2011.021] 23 Sep 2011; Swan Lake vicinity, *Ballard* [MMo, EH, BP (†)]
- Anhinga anhinga*. **Anhinga** [#2013.023] 10 May 2013; Mayfield Creek se. of Blandville, *Ballard/Carlisle* [JSo (†), AR (ph)]
- Anhinga anhinga*. **Anhinga** [#2013.024] 11–13 May 2013; Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg* [EH (ph), (BP (ph))]
- Ardea herodias*. **Great Blue Heron (white morph)** [#2012.021] 29 Aug–22 Sept 2012; Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson* [TB, BP (†/ph), m. ob.]
- Ardea herodias*. **Great Blue Heron (white morph)** [#2013.040] 23 Oct 2013; Freeman Lake, *Hardin* [BP (†/ph)]
- Egretta tricolor*. **Tricolored Heron** [#2011.017] 22 Jul 2011; Fishing Creek embayment, Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski* [RD (ph)]
- Egretta tricolor*. **Tricolored Heron** [#2012.018] 4 Aug 2012; Honker Lake, LBL, *Trigg/Lyon* [BP (ph), MMo, N&RP]
- Egretta tricolor*. **Tricolored Heron** [#2012.019] 11–13 Aug 2012; Mitchell Lake, *Ballard* [RCr (ph), SR]

- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2010.015] 10-11 May 2010; along Clear Creek n. of Rabbit Ridge, Hopkins [AK, TJ (ph)]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2010.039] 5-9 Oct 2010; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan [MW LHy (ph), SBo (ph)]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2012.022] 31 Aug 2012; former Camp #11 Mine, Union [BP (ph)]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis** [#2013.016] 28 Apr 2013; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan [BW (ph), DL (ph), MY (ph), m. ob.]
- Plegadis falcinellus*. **Glossy Ibis (1-2)** [#2013.026] 18-24 May 2013; Long Creek Refuge, LBL, Trigg [MCu (ph), m. ob.]
- Plegadis chihi*. **White-faced Ibis (2)** [#2011.012] 17 May 2011; w. of Sauerheber Unit Sloughs WMA, Henderson [JM (†)]
- Plegadis chihi*. **White-faced Ibis** [#2011.014] 26-27 May 2011; McElroy Lake, Warren [TD (†)]
- Plegadis chihi*. **White-faced Ibis** [#2013.029] 24 May 2013; Long Creek, LBL, Trigg [MCu (ph)]
- Platalea ajaja*. **Roseate Spoonbill** [#2013.037] 4-13 Sep 2013; Guist Creek Lake, Shelby [ToC, TeC (ph), m. ob.]
- Platalea ajaja*. **Roseate Spoonbill** [#2014.022] 3-12 Aug 2014; LBL, Long Creek Refuge, Trigg [MMo (ph), BP (ph), m. ob.]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2011.016] 15 Aug 2011; Puncheon Creek s. of Mt. Zion, Allen [MB (†), JaB (†), m. ob.]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2012.007] 22-23 Apr 2012; nr. Rockfield, Warren [MMe (ph)]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2012.010] 5 May 2012; Hancock Biological Station, Calloway [SW (†), DSt (ph), LP]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite (2)** [#2012.020] 13-19 Aug 2012; Belleview Bottoms, Boone [SO, LO, AC (ph), m. ob.]
- Elanoides forficatus*. **Swallow-tailed Kite** [#2013.034] 12 Aug 2013; se of Mt. Zion, Allen [MB (†), m. ob.]
- Buteo swainsoni*. **Swainson's Hawk** [#2011.009] 5 May 2011; Natural Arch Scenic Area, Daniel Boone National Forest, McCreary [RD (†)]
- Coturnicops noveboracensis*. **Yellow Rail** [#2010.042] 19 Oct 2010; Surrey Hills Farm, Jefferson [BP (†), WG]
- Coturnicops noveboracensis*. **Yellow Rail** [#2011.005] 29 Mar 2011; Surrey Hills Farm, Jefferson [BP (ph), m. ob.]
- Porphyrio martinicus*. **Purple Gallinule** [#2012.015] 5-16 July 2012; nr. Sharkey, Rowan [MW, JSo, CS (ph)]
- Porphyrio martinicus*. **Purple Gallinule** [#2014.018] 10-13 May 2014; s. of Mt. Zion, Allen [MB (†), JaB, MkB, MrB]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel (2)** [#2012.012] 11 May 2012; Kentucky Lake at Hamlin, Calloway [HC (ph), ME]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel** [#2013.027] 19 May 2013; Ky. Bend, Fulton [BP (ph), EH (ph)]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel** [#2013.028] 22 May 2013; McElroy Lake, Warren [EH (ph), BP (ph)]
- Numenius phaeopus*. **Whimbrel** [#2013.032] 21-25 July 2013; Upper Hickman Bottoms, Fulton [BP (ph), EH]
- Limosa fedoa*. **Marbled Godwit** [#2010.038] 25 Sep 2010; Falls of the Ohio, Jefferson [DC (†)]
- Limosa haemastica*. **Hudsonian Godwit** [#2014.023] 30 Aug 2014; former Camp #11 Mine, Union [BP (ph), MY (ph), BY (ph), m. ob.]
- Limosa haemastica*. **Hudsonian Godwit** [#2014.027] 11 Sep 2014; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan [MW (ph)]
- Phalaropus lobatus*. **Red-necked Phalarope** [#2010.035] 12 Sept 2010; Blood River embayment, Kentucky Lake, Calloway [HC (ph)]
- Phalaropus lobatus*. **Red-necked Phalarope** [#2010.037] 24-25 Sept 2010; former Camp #11 Mine, Union [BP (ph), m.ob.]
- Phalaropus fulicarius*. **Red Phalarope (2)** [#2013.022] 8 May 2013; Melco, Jefferson [J&PB, CBs, RL, EH (ph), BP (ph), m.ob.]
- Phalaropus fulicarius*. **Red Phalarope** [#2013.041] 25 Oct 2013; Mississippi River at Campbell Dikes, Carlisle [BP (†/ph)]
- Stercorarius pomarinus*. **Pomarine Jaeger** [#2014.007] 14-22 Feb 2014; Green River Lake, Taylor [RD (†/ph), m. ob.]



- Stercorarius longicaudus*. **Long-tailed Jaeger** [#2012.023] 2 Sep 2012; Kentucky Lake above Kentucky Dam, *Livingston* [MMo, EH (ph), BP, m. ob.]
- Rissa tridactyla*. **Black-legged Kittiwake** [#2010.043] 4 Nov 2010; Kentucky Lake above Kentucky Dam, *Marshall* [BP (†), EH]
- Rissa tridactyla*. **Black-legged Kittiwake** [#2012.031] 7 Nov 2012; Waitsboro Rec. Area, Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski* [RD (ph)]
- Rissa tridactyla*. **Black-legged Kittiwake** [#2012.035] 11-13 Nov 2012; Ohio River at Louisville, *Jefferson* [MA, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Xema sabini*. **Sabine's Gull** [#2012.024] 21 Sep 2012; Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren* [AH (†), m.ob.]
- Xema sabini*. **Sabine's Gull** [#2013.039] 18-19 Sep 2013; Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* [BP, EH (ph)]
- Xema sabini*. **Sabine's Gull** [#2014.025] 20 Sep 2014; Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* [BP (†), m. ob.]
- Hydrocoloeus minimus*. **Little Gull** [#2012.046] 5 Dec 2012; Blood River embayment, Kentucky Lake, *Calloway* [HC (†)]
- Larus californicus*. **California Gull** [#2013.005] 1-7 Mar 2013; Lake Barkley, *Lyon* [EH (ph), BP (†/ph), BW, MA]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2011.003] 27 Mar 2011; Ohio River, Louisville, *Jefferson* [EH (†/ph), m. ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2011.004] 27-31 Mar 2011; McElroy Lake, *Warren* [TD, BP (ph), EH]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2012.002] 5 Mar 2012; Jacobson Park, *Fayette* [SH (ph), HJ, FH (ph), m. ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2013.018] 25-27 Jan 2013; Meldahl Dam, *Bracken* [BH, BW(†), GW, DW]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2013.043] 3-5 Nov 2013; Green River Lake, *Adair* [BP (†), EH, RD (ph)]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.008] 14 Feb 2014; Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson* [BP (†), m.ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.010] 15-16 Feb 2014; Green River Lake, *Taylor* [BP (†/ph), MA, m. ob.]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.011] 16 Feb 2014; Meldahl Dam, *Bracken* [EB (ph)]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.013] 5-7 Mar 2014; Ohio River at Craig's Creek, *Gallatin* [BP (ph), EH]
- Larus fuscus*. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** [#2014.024] 11-13 Sept 2014; Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan* [RD (†/ph), BW (ph)]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2010.030] 26 Feb 2010; Kentucky Dam, *Marshall* [BP (†), HC, EH]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2010.031] 25 Mar 2010; Green Turtle Bay Marina, Lake Barkley, *Lyon* [MMo, EH, BP (ph)]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2010.047] 19 Dec 2010–11 Feb 2011; Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall* [BP (†), EH (ph), m. o.b]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2011.029] 13 Feb 2011; Markland Dam, *Gallatin* [JkS (†/ph), JyS, MGj]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull** [#2014.004] 2 Feb 2014; Ohio River at the mouth of the Licking River, *Campbell/Kenton* [EB (ph)]
- Larus marinus*. **Great Black-backed Gull (2)** [#2014.009] 14-16 Feb 2014; Meldahl Dam, *Bracken* [JF (ph), SFr, SFi, TCz]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2011.013] 22 May 2011; Panorama Shores, *Calloway* [KC (†), MCo]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2012.004] 2-6 Apr 2012; s. of Sharkey, *Rowan* [MW (†), EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2012.011] 6 May 2012; Lexington, *Fayette* [C&GT (ph)]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2013.025] 12 May 2013; Henderson, *Henderson* [CC (ph), m.ob.]
- Zenaida asiatica*. **White-winged Dove** [#2014.020] 11-12 Jun 2014; Murray, *Calloway* [ME (†/ph)]
- Bubo scandiacus*. **Snowy Owl** [#2012.033] 10-15 Nov 2012; Louisville, *Jefferson* [EM, JC, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Bubo scandiacus*. **Snowy Owl** [#2013.045] 26 Nov–3 Dec 2013; Louisville International Airport, *Jefferson* [SBu, KT (ph), m. ob.]

- Bubo scandiacus*. **Snowy Owl** [#2013.048] 24-27 Dec 2013; I-265, ne. *Jefferson* [LY (ph), RROKI (ph)]
- Falco mexicanus*. **Prairie Falcon** [#2013.046] 11 Dec 2013–11 Jan 2014; Elk Creek Bottoms, *Hopkins* [BP (†/ph), m. ob.]
- Sayornis saya*. **Say's Phoebe** [#2013.001] 4 Jan–7 Mar 2013; ne. of Almo, *Calloway* [MSc, AY, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2012.047] 17 Dec 2012–14 Jan 2013; nr. Helm's Junction, *Russell* [RD (†/ph), SD]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike (juv.)** [#2012.051] 30 Dec 2012–27 Jan 2013; Ken Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio* [MS, EH (ph), BY (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike (ad.)** [#2013.003] 16 Feb 2013; Ken Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio* [AF (ph)]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2013.007] 19 Jan–8 Mar 2013; Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA *Muhlenberg* [BY (ph), DL (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2013.009] 23 Mar 2013; former Gibraltar Mine, *Muhlenberg* [BP (†/ph), DL (ph), m. ob.]
- Lanius excubitor*. **Northern Shrike** [#2013.042] 2 Nov 2013; former Camp #11 Mine, *Union* [AB, EH (ph), BP]
- Sitta pusilla*. **Brown-headed Nuthatch (up to 4)** [#2013.002] 18 Jan 2013+; Kentucky Dam Village SRP, *Marshall* [BP, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Ixoreus naevius*. **Varied Thrush** [#2011.002] 4 Feb–14 Mar 2011; nw of Sharpe, *Marshall* [LHe (ph), m. ob.]
- Pipilo maculatus*. **Spotted Towhee** [#2012.048] 18 Dec 2012–30 Jan 2013; West Kentucky WMA, *McCracken* [EH, BP (ph), RCr (ph), m. ob.]
- Spizella pallida*. **Clay-colored Sparrow** [#2011.011] 8 May 2011; Shippingport Island, Louisville, *Jefferson* [KB (ph)]
- Ammodramus nelsoni*. **Nelson's Sparrow** [#2012.026] 6 Oct 2012; Cedar Creek Industrial Park, *Bullitt* [MA (ph), m. ob.]
- Zonotrichia querula*. **Harris's Sparrow** [#2011.030] 19 Dec 2011–23 Feb 2012; just e. of Blue Spring, *Trigg* [CH (ph), m. ob.]
- Piranga ludoviciana*. **Western Tanager** [#2013.015] 27-29 Mar 2013; s. of Lawrenceburg, *Anderson* [BS (ph)]
- Piranga ludoviciana*. **Western Tanager** [#2013.017] 29 Apr 2013; Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette* [TN (ph), DL (ph)]
- Passerina ciris*. **Painted Bunting** [#2012.008] 26 Apr 2012; Crestwood, *Oldham* [TF, NG (ph)]
- Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** [#2013.021] 30 Apr 2013; Elbow Slough Road, *Fulton* [BM (ph), BL]
- Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** [#2013.047] 20 Dec 2013; KY 862, nw. of Elk Creek Bottoms, *Hopkins* [BP (†), EH]
- Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** [#2014.026] 25 Sep 2014; nr. Bagdad, *Shelby* [RHi (†)]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill** [#2012.040] 17 Nov 2012; Red River Gorge, *Powell* [JF (†)]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill (up to 12)** [#2012.041] 22 Nov 2012–24 Mar 2013; Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette* [MT, EH (ph), RD (vo), m. ob.]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill (up to 26)** [#2012.043] 24 Nov 2012–20 Mar 2013; Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson* [RL, BP (vo/ph), m. ob.]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill** [#2012.052] 11 Dec 2012; Pulaski County Park [RD (†/ph/vo)]
- Loxia curvirostra*. **Red Crossbill** [#2013.030] 16 Jun 2013; Dan Dunn River Road, *Larue* [BP (†)]
- Loxia leucoptera*. **White-winged Crossbill (up to ca. 40)** [#2012.042] 22 Nov 2012–26 Mar 2013; Lexington Cemetery, *Fayette* [DSv, DL (ph), m. ob.]
- Loxia leucoptera*. **White-winged Crossbill** [#2012.044] 24 Nov–1 Dec 2012; Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson* [RL, EH (ph), m. ob.]
- Acanthis flammea*. **Common Redpoll** [#2012.001] 12 Feb 2012; Independence, *Kenton* [RCr (ph)]
- Acanthis flammea*. **Common Redpoll** [#2012.036] 11 Nov 2012; n. of Berry, *Pendleton* [LHg (ph)]
- Coccothraustes vespertinus*. **Evening Grosbeak** [#2012.034] 10 Nov 2012; Ashland, *Boyd* [VS (ph)]
- Coccothraustes vespertinus*. **Evening Grosbeak (6)** [#2012.049] 18 Dec 2012; Mammoth Cave NP, *Edmonson* [BF (ph), m. ob.]
- Coccothraustes vespertinus*. **Evening Grosbeak (up to 15)** [#2012.050] circa 26 Dec 2012–26 Apr 2013; Woodsbend, *Morgan* [B&BA (†), EH (ph)]

**Observers:** Brenda & Bud Angus (B&BA), Michael Autin (MA), Alan Barron (AB), Jamin Beachy (JaB), John Beachy (JoB), Makaya Beachy (MkB), Marena Beachy (MrB), Matthan Beachy (MB), Tom Becker (TB), Jane & Pat Bell (J&PB), Carol Besse (CBs), Steve Bonney (SBo), Karen Bonsell (KB), Eric Burkholder (EB), Gerald Burnett (GB), Sean Burns (SBu), Joel Ray Campbell (JC), Hap Chambers (HC), Allan Claybon (AC), Kathy Cohen (KC), Michael Cohen (MCo), Robert Colvis (RCo), Derek Coomer (DC), Charles Crawford (CC), Rodney Crice (RCr), Ted Critchfield (TeC), Tom Critchfield (ToC), Melodie Cunningham (MCu), Thomas Czubek (TCz), Roseanna Denton (RD), Steve Denton (SD), Tom Durbin (TD), Melissa Easley (ME), Blaine Ferrell (BF), Alex Fish (AF), Sam Fitton (SFt), Jonathan Frodge (JF), Samantha Frodge (SFr), Teresa Fultz (TF), Melissa Gaither (MGa), Mark Gilsdorf (MGi), Steve Graham (SG), Teresa Graham (TG), Nick Gregory (NG), Wallace Gullett (WG), Laura Haggarty (LHg), Curtis Hart (CH), Stratton Hatfield (SH), Lana Hays (LHy), Richard Healy (RH), Larry Heavrin (LHe), Rick Hill (RHt), Eddie Huber (EH), Frank Huggins (FH), Bill Hull (BH), Aaron Hulsey (AH), Tim Johnson (TJ), Heather Jordan (HJ), Kory Knight (KK), Amy Krzton-Presson (AK), Rob Lane (RL), David Lang (DL), Bill Lisowsky (BL), Judy Lundquist (JL), Frank Lyne (FL), Mark Meador (MMe), John Meredig (JM), Ellen Mershon (EM), Bobby Metz (BM), Mark Monroe (MMo), multiple observers (m. ob.), Tina Nauman (TN), Jacob Neace (JN), Susan Neace (SN), Anne Newberry (AN), Ronan O'Carra (RO), Linda Osterhage (LO), Susan Osterhage (SO), Brainard Palmer-Ball (BP), Nicole & Richard Pollitt (N&RP), Leslie Potts (LP), Joe Pulliam (JP), Andy Radomski (AR), Raptor Rehabilitation of Kentucky, Inc. (RROKI), Scott Record (SR), Vicki Sandage (VS), Mary Schmidt (MSc), Tony Smith (TS), Bob Snow (BS), Carol Sole (CS), Jeff Sole (JS), Jack Stenger (JkS), Jay Stenger (JyS), Daniel Stephens (DSt), Matt Stickel (MS), David Svetich (DSv), Teresa Thomas (TT), Mark Tower (MT), Charles & Gretchen Tremoulet (C&GT), Kevin Turner (KT), Steve White (SW), Jeff Wilson (JW), Mike Wright (MW), Brian Wulker (BW), Dave Wulker (DW), Gale Wulker (GW), Ben Yandell (BY), Mary Yandell (MY), Aviva Yasgur (AY), Lauren Young (LY).

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### KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL 2014 MEETING

Lake Barkley State Resort Park, Cadiz, Kentucky  
September 19-21, 2014

Blaine Ferrell, Recording Secretary

The fall 2014 meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society at Lake Barkley State Resort Park began with a Friday afternoon field trip for early arrivals led by Jane and Pat Bell. Registration for the meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. Vice-President Pat Bell convened the Friday evening meeting at 7:03 p.m. and welcomed new members. Linda Craiger is spearheading a membership drive to increase KOS membership. She handed out Society brochures and free copies of the *Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Kentucky* to non-members



who were in attendance. Carol Besse reported on the recently created Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship and the two young birders who attended the American Birding Association camp in Delaware on Kingsolver scholarships this past summer.

Tanner Shepard, one of the two Kingsolver Fund grant recipients, opened the evening's program by providing a report on his experience at Camp Avocet. He participated in field trips to Prime Hook and Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuges, and took a ferry trip to Cape May, New Jersey. Camp participants also attended daily talks and seminars about birding. Tanner added 55 birds to his life list during his stay at the camp. Pat then introduced Steve Kistler who conducted a bird quiz. He showed small portions of each bird and asked the audience to identify it. Steve then led the group through an eBird primer and encouraged members to submit sightings to this citizen science birding portal. Individuals can use the site to submit and track their own observations and to explore data submitted by other birders across the world. Data can be sorted by geographic region or by species. A new feature shows seasonal occurrence bar-graphs by location, helping birders know what to expect at each time of year for each geographic area. In order for eBird to reach its full potential of providing historically accurate data, birders will need to submit their observations regularly. Steve encouraged everyone to do so.

Pat Bell then introduced the main speaker for the evening, Bob Peak, who gave a presentation titled *Bluebirds Over Western Kentucky*. Bob and his wife, Judy, have studied Eastern Bluebirds for over 25 years and are members of the North American Bluebird Society, Friends of LBL, and Friends of Audubon. They started bluebird trails, series of nest boxes along specific routes, at Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area (170 nest boxes) and Lake Barkley State Resort Park (60 nest boxes) in 1990. The Peaks also added a bluebird trail at John James Audubon State Park (20 boxes) in 2005 and a Prothonotary Warbler trail (12 boxes) there in 2010. Bob and Judy check the boxes once a month from March through August. They documented their 30,000<sup>th</sup> bluebird fledgling during 2014, highlighting the impact that just a couple of dedicated people can have on songbird conservation. Bob thanked Arlene Ripley for many of the photographs he used in his presentation. Pat Bell thanked Bob for his talk and thanked Bob and Judy for their longstanding work to preserve bluebirds in western Kentucky.

Pat Bell then went over proper etiquette for bird walks including turning off cell phones, staying with the leader, and taking a quick look in telescopes so others can get a chance to see the bird. She warned everyone to watch for chiggers, use sunscreen, and take plenty of water. Details for six different field trips for Saturday were announced. The Friday evening meeting concluded at 8:33 p.m. and was followed by a social hour.

On Saturday morning, four field trips departed the Park lodge at 8:00 a.m. Jeff Sole led a trip to Long Creek Refuge in LBL, Rob Lane led a field trip to the LBL Nature Station, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., led a trip to Jonathan Creek, and Steve Kistler led a trip for beginners in the Park. After lunch Dr. Wayne Chester led a plant identification field trip to Hematite Lake and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., led a birding trip to overlooks at the northern ends of Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley.

Society President Steve Kistler convened the Saturday evening meeting at 7:05 p.m. Blaine Ferrell tallied the list of birds seen on the Friday and Saturday field trips. The annual business meeting followed. Steve Kistler announced the slate of officers submitted by the Nominating Committee, and it passed unanimously. All Executive Board Members (President Steve Kistler, Vice-President Pat Bell, Treasurer Lee McNeely, Recording Secretary Blaine Ferrell, and Corresponding Secretary Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.) were elected to renewing terms. Rob Lane and Teresa Graham were elected as incoming Councillors. Steve thanked outgoing Councillors Linda Craiger and Wendell Kingsolver for their service. The business meeting was then adjourned.

Steve Kistler introduced the featured speaker, Tim Gallagher, of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. He presented *Imperial Dreams: Tracking the Imperial Woodpecker*

*through the Wild Sierra Madre.* While working at the Cornell Lab, Tim spent many years looking for Ivory-billed Woodpeckers and interviewing people who reported seeing them during the 1950s. After hearing of a credible sighting in the swamps of Arkansas in 2004, Tim and his friend Bobby Harrison spent a week floating in the Cache River NWR trying to locate an Ivory-bill. Tim went on to describe the Lab's efforts to find an Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Arkansas and the surrounding states in 2005. Then Tim moved on to describe how he and Bobby embarked on a quest to find the Imperial Woodpecker in Mexico. The Imperial Woodpecker is the largest known species of woodpecker. It required a very specific habitat that was found only in the high country of Mexico's Sierra Madre Mountains. In addition to describing his search for any remaining woodpeckers, Tim told of many famous people who have lived in the region and how drug gangs have made it extremely dangerous to travel there. The last documented sighting of Imperial Woodpeckers was in 1956 and is documented by photographs by William Rhein. Tim suspects there may still be a few of the birds left, however due to the multiple threats to their habitat, he doesn't believe the species can be saved.

Following several questions, President Kistler wrapped up the meeting with a few items of business. Carol Besse asked for members to help find teenage birders to apply for the 2015 Kingsolver Scholarship. Details of Sunday morning field trips were announced. The spring 2015 meeting of the Society will be held at Cumberland Falls State Resort Park. Steve thanked Pat Bell for organizing the current meeting. The Saturday evening meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. On Sunday morning, Hap Chambers led a field trip to Jonathan Creek, Lee McNeely led a field trip to Hematite Lake, and David Lang led a field trip around the Lake Barkley lodge. Sunday field trips added several species to the weekend list.

#### **Attendance at the Fall 2014 K.O.S. Meeting**

Ashland:	Vicki Sandage
Bagdad:	Horace Brown
Benton:	Josh Powell
Berea:	Rebecca Bates, Rob Foster
Bowling Green:	Valerie Brown, Blaine Ferrell, Marilyn Mattingly
Burlington:	Lee McNeely
Carlisle:	Eva Lee & Wendell Kingsolver
Central City:	Kelvin & Vivian Clark
Frankfort:	Kay Harker, Carol & Jeff Sole
Glasgow:	Linda Craiger, David & Sandra Moss
Georgetown:	David Lang
Greenville:	Steve & Teresa Graham
Lawrenceburg:	Terry Anderson
Lexington:	Rhonda Bryant, Scott Marsh, Marie Sutton, Gail & Joe Swanson, Jim Williams, Antonio Xeira
Louisville:	Tom Ackerson, Jane & Pat Bell, Carol Besse, Rob Lane, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Pam Spaulding, Ben & Mary Yandell
Morehead:	Fred & Katie Busroe, Brian Reeder
Mount Sterling:	Gerald Robe
Munfordville:	Janet & Steve Kistler
Murray:	Hap Chambers, Melissa Easley
Owensboro:	Marilee & Wendell Thompson
Prospect:	Win Ahrens
Science Hill:	Roseanna Denton
Waddy:	Tanner Shepard
Cincinnati, OH:	Brian Wulker

**Birds Observed at the Fall 2014 K.O.S. Meeting  
Lake Barkley State Resort Park, Land Between the Lakes, and vicinity**

The following species were observed during the weekend of 19-21 September 2014: Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Gadwall, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Wild Turkey, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Sanderling, Least Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, Franklin's Gull, Laughing Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Sabine's Gull, Black Tern, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Screech-Owl, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, American Kestrel, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Golden-winged Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Hooded Warbler, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Pine Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow.

### FIELD NOTE

**Brown Creepers Nesting in Wolfe County:  
A First Record for Kentucky's Cumberland Plateau**

#### Introduction

The Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) breeds primarily, but not exclusively, in coniferous forests throughout much of North America. This range extends as far north as southeastern Alaska and as far south as Nicaragua (Hejl et al. 2002). There have been several documented records of nesting Brown Creepers from wetland sites in western Kentucky (Palmer-Ball 1996) and western Tennessee (Nicholson 1997). In addition, there is a summer record, 20-21 July 1999, from Bullitt County in central Kentucky (Palmer-Ball 2003) and a few reports from the Cumberland Plateau and Cumberland Mountains of the eastern portion of the state (see below).

Within the Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, the Brown Creeper breeds commonly in high elevation spruce-fir forests and is also known to breed more sparingly in mixed white pine-hemlock-deciduous forest at lower elevations (Holt 1974). Breeding range expansion of the Brown Creeper into lower elevation areas of the Blue Ridge in Georgia and South Carolina has also been recently documented (Renfrow and Blankenship 2008). North of the Ohio River in Ohio, the Cumberland Plateau transitions into the Allegheny Plateau; this area has yielded a few breeding-season records of Brown Creepers in mixed hemlock-deciduous forests as far south as Hocking County (Renfrow 2002).

The occurrence of the Brown Creeper in eastern Kentucky during summer was first reported on Black Mountain, Harlan County, 5-6 July 1944 (Breiding 1947). However, this



record was later considered possibly erroneous due to the lack of any other observations of the species during field studies conducted by other observers on the mountain during that period (Mengel 1965). There is also the distinct possibility that these were post-breeding migrants from Virginia, where this species is known to breed at higher elevations in at least seven counties, with a record of young found in the nest for 3 June (Kain 1987). A late summer report from Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, Whitley County, 20 August 1972, likely represented a post-breeding disperser (Kleen and Bush 1973). Thus, the discovery of a Brown Creeper nest in Wolfe County during 2014 represents a first confirmed breeding record for the Cumberland Plateau in Kentucky.

#### **Initial Reports of Brown Creepers at Rock Bridge During the Breeding Season**

On 9 June 1999 I heard the song of a Brown Creeper coming from the far side of Swift Camp Creek from the trail at the Rock Bridge natural arch formation in the Clifty Wilderness Area of the Red River Gorge, Daniel Boone National Forest, Wolfe County (Palmer-Ball 2003). More recently, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and others observed a Brown Creeper singing in relatively open mid-story of old growth White pines (*Pinus strobus*) at different points along the Rock Bridge Trail 7 and 8 May 2012. Two years later, Palmer-Ball and others observed a Brown Creeper carrying food near the Rock Bridge and Swift Camp Creek trail junction 8 May 2014. Palmer-Ball and others returned the next day and again found a Brown Creeper, this time a little farther northwest along the Swift Camp Creek Trail.

#### **A First Brown Creeper Nest for the Cumberland Plateau**

On 5 June 2014 I arrived at the Rock Bridge Trail at mid-day, principally in search of Red-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta canadensis*), but with the recent sightings of Brown Creepers in mind. I sat down for a rest break on a log not far from Rock Bridge, itself, and played an audio clip of a calling Brown Creeper. Very soon afterwards a creeper appeared on the trunk of a large White pine directly in front of me. I followed the bird as it continued to feed from tree to tree while also calling and occasionally singing its distinctive tinkling song. After about 15 minutes, the creeper came to rest for a considerable period on the moss-and-lichen-covered trunk of a small Red maple (*Acer rubrum*) (Fig. 1, p. 112), very close to or possibly even the same tree in which I had previously found the first record of an active Red-breasted Nuthatch nest for Kentucky (Renfrow 1999). There was a hollow area in the trunk of the maple where the creeper disappeared, and I first thought this might be where it was nesting. Upon continued observation, however, I noticed two creepers (possibly a pair) repeatedly vocalizing and returning to an area about 60 ft (18.5 m) away near a large double-trunked White pine (Fig. 2, next page). One of the trunks was dead, and on that one some loose bark still adhered. I soon noticed a mass of pine needles, twigs, and leaf matter protruding from behind the lower end of a loose slab of bark about 20 ft (6 m) above the ground (Fig. 3, p. 112). As this is a typical creeper nest feature, I was thoroughly convinced that this was, indeed, the nest site. I settled down to watch the nest as the daylight began to wane. After about an hour had passed, I saw a creeper slip in several times from around the back and go under the loose bark. Unfortunately, it disappeared so quickly that I could not obtain a photograph.

That night I contacted Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and he was able to meet me at mid-morning the following day. Shortly after he arrived, we both observed a creeper come to the nest several times with either food or nesting material in its bill. We also both heard a second creeper calling occasionally nearby. Light conditions were poor, but Palmer-Ball was able to get a documenting photo of the Brown Creeper going to the nest (Fig. 3, p. 112). Palmer-Ball then went on to search the area where he had found the creepers the previous month. I continued to watch the nest for quite a while, but the creeper only returned a few more times and always approached the nest in a very stealthy manner. During much of the time that I was observing the creeper nest, several Red-breasted



Nuthatches could be heard calling nearby. In fact it was near the top of this very same large White pine tree that I observed a Red-breasted Nuthatch at a nest hole 22 May 2003 (Palmer-Ball and McNeely 2003).

### Habitat Discussion

Outside of the high elevation spruce-fir forests in the Appalachian Mountains, the Brown Creeper has been found to nest in mixed hemlock-deciduous forests in both Tennessee and North Carolina (Holt 1974, Nicholson 1997, Kendeigh and Fawver 1981). At the Rock Bridge location as well as in other lower elevation breeding locations within the southeastern United States, I have observed that the Brown Creeper shows a marked preference for areas of mature mixed white pine-hemlock-deciduous forest.

Much of the habitat at the Rock Bridge portion of the Clifty Wilderness Area contains a dominant element of White pine within the deciduous forest. The abundance of White pine in Wolfe County has apparently been overlooked in most Kentucky ornithological literature. There is little or no specific mention of White pine as differentiated from other pine species by Mengel (1965), who had obtained much of his information on forest vegetation from Braun (1950), who also did not differentiate the pine species in a majority of her writings. There is one old source on eastern Kentucky that does stress the dominance of White pine, mentioning “a vast forest of the finest White pine” within Wolfe County in particular (Thomas 1926).

A considerable threat to the Eastern hemlock has recently appeared in the form of the hemlock woolly adelgid. This non-native insect threatens to eliminate Eastern hemlock from the forest ecosystem throughout eastern North America including eastern Kentucky. This highlights the future importance of the role of White pine in providing a continued coniferous element within the deciduous forests of the Cumberland Plateau (Renfrow 2005).



Fig. 2. Brown Creeper nest site on dead White pine trunk  
Wolfe County, 6 June 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

### Conclusions

The white pine-hemlock-deciduous forest habitat preference of the Brown Creeper is also shared by the Red-breasted Nuthatch, a species that has been documented nesting in the vicinity of Rock Bridge but nowhere else in Kentucky (Renfrow 1999, Renfrow 2005). It is possible that these species could be present as breeders in other parts of the Cumberland Plateau, but there are few areas within that region that approach the Rock Bridge area in terms of the predominance of White pine within the forest ecosystem.

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**KENTUCKY BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE  
Species Review List, November 2014**

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Whimbrel	Say's Phoebe
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Hudsonian Godwit	Vermilion Flycatcher
Brant	Red Knot	Ash-throated Flycatcher
Eurasian Wigeon	Ruff	Western Kingbird
Mottled Duck	Curlew Sandpiper	Gray Kingbird
Cinnamon Teal	Little Stint	Northern Shrike
Tufted Duck	Red Phalarope	Black-capped Chickadee
King Eider	Pomarine Jaeger	Brown-headed Nuthatch
Harlequin Duck	Parasitic Jaeger	Rock Wren
Pacific Loon	Long-tailed Jaeger	Bewick's Wren
Yellow-billed Loon	Long-billed Murrelet	Mountain Bluebird
Western Grebe	Black-legged Kittiwake	Varied Thrush
Black-capped Petrel	Sabine's Gull	Smith's Longspur
Audubon's Shearwater	Black-headed Gull	Black-throated Gray Warbler
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel	Little Gull	Green-tailed Towhee
Northern Gannet	Mew Gull	Spotted Towhee
Neotropic Cormorant	Wood Stork	Clay-colored Sparrow
Anhinga	California Gull	Sagebrush Sparrow
Brown Pelican	Iceland Gull	Harris's Sparrow
Tricolored Heron	Sooty Tern	Painted Bunting
Reddish Egret	Gull-billed Tern	Western Tanager
Glossy Ibis	Sandwich Tern	Black-headed Grosbeak
White-faced Ibis	Black Skimmer	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Roseate Spoonbill	Band-tailed Pigeon	Hooded Oriole
Swallow-tailed Kite	White-winged Dove	Bullock's Oriole
White-tailed Kite	Inca Dove	Scott's Oriole
Northern Goshawk	Common Ground-Dove	Red Crossbill
Swainson's Hawk	Groove-billed Ani	White-winged Crossbill
Ferruginous Hawk	Snowy Owl	Common Redpoll
Yellow Rail	Green Violetear	Lesser Goldfinch
King Rail	Black-chinned Hummingbird	Evening Grosbeak
Purple Gallinule	Prairie Falcon	Eurasian Tree Sparrow

**Footnotes:** Banded birds do not require review unless requested by KBRC; during species irruptions, only initial reports will require review.

**KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

**Statement of Financial Position  
September 8, 2014**

Depository	Account	Balance
PNC Bank, Louisville	General Fund (Checking)	\$15,134.99
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Burt Monroe, Jr., Avian Research Fund (Checking)	\$3,421.56
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Gordon Wilson Fund (CD)	\$21,816.58
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Gordon Wilson Fund (Savings)	\$2,242.23
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund (Savings)	\$6,643.80
Heritage Bank, Burlington	Endowment Fund (CD)	\$18,615.00
Total assets		\$67,874.16

Submitted by Lee McNeely, Treasurer, September 8, 2014 (unaudited)

<b>KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY</b> <b>Operating Statement</b> <b>September 26, 2013 — September 8, 2014</b>		
<b>Beginning Balance (September 26, 2013)</b>		\$15,037.20
<b>Receipts</b>		
Dues (Renewals and New Memberships)	\$2,770.00	
CD interest from Endowment Fund	\$72.19	
Meeting Registrations (Fall 2013)	\$400.00	
Meeting Registrations (Spring 2014)	\$579.00	
Donations for Speakers	\$1000.00	
Sales ( <i>Annotated Checklists</i> , Field Cards, etc.)	\$276.00	
Anne Stamm Fund Donations	\$660.00	
Burt Monroe Fund Donations	\$625.00	
Gordon Wilson Fund Donations	\$135.00	
Kingsolver Fund Donations	\$2,505.00	
Endowment Fund Donations	\$900.00	
Burt Monroe Fund Reimbursement	\$910.00	
U.S. Forest Service Grants (for <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i> support) (2)	\$800.00	
Postage Reimbursement	\$9.31	
Silent Auction Proceeds	\$85.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		\$11,726.50
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Printing – November 2013 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$370.53	
Printing – February 2014 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$531.32	
Printing – May 2014 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$494.67	
Printing – August 2014 issue <i>The Kentucky Warbler</i>	\$389.05	
Meeting Speaker (Nate Swick)	\$1,100.00	
Meeting Speaker (Mark Wiland)	\$100.00	
Meeting Speaker (David Buehler)	\$1,331.19	
Transfer to Anne Stamm Fund	\$660.00	
Transfer to Burt Monroe Fund	\$625.00	
Transfer to Gordon Wilson Fund	\$135.00	
Transfer to Endowment Fund	\$600.00	
Kingsolver Fund Award (American Birding Association)	\$2,290.00	
Burt Monroe Avian Research Fund Award (Julie Dahl)	\$910.00	
General Grant Award (North Star Science; Barn Owl tracking project)	\$1,000.00	
Projector and Web Site Development (Steve Kistler)	\$767.12	
Mtg. expenses (Reimburse Treasurer)	\$324.83	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>		\$11,628.71
<b>Net Receipts</b>		\$97.79
<b>Ending Balance (September 8, 2014)</b>		\$15,134.99

Submitted by Lee McNeely, Treasurer, September 8, 2014 (unaudited)

## NEWS AND VIEWS

**Visit the NEW K.O.S. Web Site!**

You may now find information about the Society on our new web site at the following address: [www.birdky.org](http://www.birdky.org). Please bookmark this web site address, as the former web site will be removed when the migration of all information is completed.

**Virginia and Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Available**

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 to honor the memory of Virginia "Ginny" Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and her husband, Wendell, to K.O.S. and to environmental education efforts across Kentucky. The scholarship is available to a young birder between the ages of 13 and 18 who lives in Kentucky. The Fund will pay tuition for a young birder to attend an American Birding Association Summer Camp. Details about the A.B.A. camps can be found on the A.B.A. website. To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, applicants should fill out the form found on the K.O.S. web site (<http://birdky.org/wendell-and-ginny-kingsolver-fund.html>), write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to attend, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. Recipients will be asked to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to K.O.S. at a meeting, or in writing. The deadline to apply for a 2015 Kingsolver Scholarship is 1 May 2015.

**K.O.S. Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund Grants Available**

The Anne L. Stamm Avian Education Fund supports education of children in the deeper appreciation of birds and ornithology. For guidelines on how to apply for grants of up to \$500, please contact Scott Marsh by mail at 4401 Athens-Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY, 40509, or via email at [scott.marsh@twc.com](mailto:scott.marsh@twc.com).

**Kentucky Bird Records Committee**

The Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC) is charged with determining the validity of records of rare and out-of-season birds in Kentucky. Sightings of such birds should be documented with information supporting the identification and promptly submitted to the KBRC. Photographic evidence is desirable but not essential. Electronic documentation is preferred and should be submitted to KBRC Secretary, Ben Yandell, via e-mail at [secy@kybirdrecords.org](mailto:secy@kybirdrecords.org). If electronic submission is not feasible, paper documentation can be mailed to Ben Yandell, KBRC Secretary, 513 Lymington Ct., Louisville, KY 40243.

***The Kentucky Warbler* Available in PDF Format**

Members of the Kentucky Ornithological Society who wish to receive quarterly issues of the Society's journal, *The Kentucky Warbler*, in electronic format rather than hard copy through the mail may now receive them by email. If you wish to receive future issues of *The Kentucky Warbler* in digital PDF format, email the Society's Corresponding Secretary, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., at [brainard@mindspring.com](mailto:brainard@mindspring.com).

**It's Time to Renew Your Membership for 2015!**

Enclosed with this issue of *The Kentucky Warbler* is a membership renewal sheet and addressed envelope. Life members will receive a sheet listing opportunities to donate to the Society's various funds that are used for specific bird conservation activities.





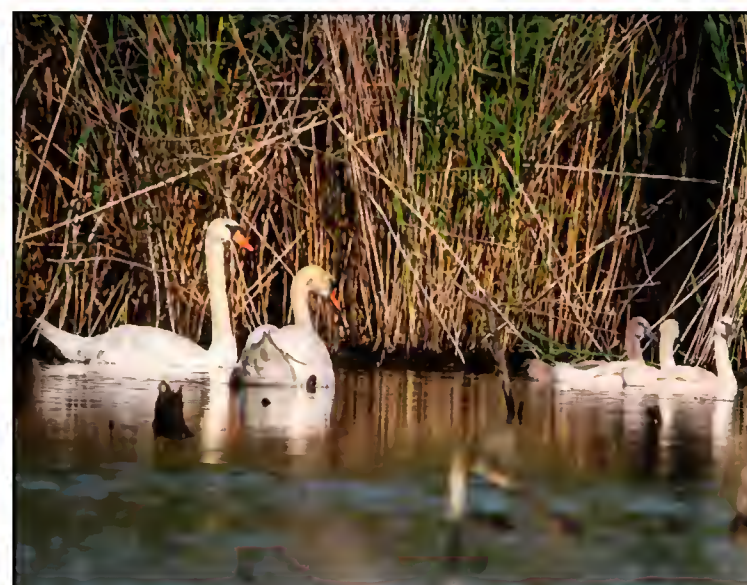
Fig. 1 (p. 100) Brown Creeper near nest, *Wolfe*  
5 June 2014  
Frank Renfrow



Fig. 3 (p. 100) Brown Creeper at nest (loose material  
behind flake of bark), *Wolfe*, 6 June 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Mississippi Kites (adult & chick), *Jefferson*  
10 July 2014  
Barbara Woerner & Marge Constan



Mute Swan family, *Muhlenberg*  
18 June 2014  
Jeff Sole



Baird's Sandpiper (adult), *Union*  
25 July 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.



Least Terns (adult & chick), *Union*  
25 July 2014  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.